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INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION.

§ 1. PASSPORTS AND CUSTOM-HOUSES.

THE passport system is abolished in Bavaria, Belgium, Denmark, Holland, France, Italy, Prussia, Spain, Sweden, and Norway. In all other European countries it is maintained. Notwithstanding this no English traveller should venture abroad for a journey of any length without a passport as a *proof of his nationality*. He may otherwise be marched under arrest, for miles along a hot, dusty road, to some Sous Prefêt's residence, under the suspicion of his not being an Englishman at all. A passport can be procured at the Foreign-Office, Downing Street, by leaving or sending a letter of recommendation from any M.P., or London banker, magistrate, clergyman, solicitor, or surgeon, and calling or sending the next day for the passport, for which a fee of 2s. is charged. Persons intending to enter the Austrian States should obtain the visa of the Austrian ambassador in London, which is given gratis at Chandos House, Cavendish Square.

The traveller should take care to procure all the visas he is even likely to want before he leaves London, as he thereby saves himself much trouble and annoyance. Those who have not time or a servant at their disposal should forward their letters of recommendation to Lee, 440, Strand, or to Dorrell and Son, 15, Charing Cross, who for a small charge will procure the passports and visas, and will also mount the passport in a case, which some travellers prefer. For further information see *Handbook for the Continent*, or *Handbook for France*.

Custom-houses.—The Swiss now levy import-dues only on a few bulky articles, and no examination of passengers' luggage is made on entering or leaving the country. Examinations are made on entering France, Italy, Austria, or the German States.

§ 2. ROUTES TO SWITZERLAND—SKELETON TOURS.

There are now several routes by which Switzerland may be very speedily reached from London:—

- a. By Basle.
- b. By Friedrichshafen.
- c. By Neuchâtel.
- d. By Geneva.

a. BASLE may be reached—

London to Paris, 11 hours; Paris to Basle (railway by Troyes, 13½ hours; by Strasbourg 17 hours).

London to Mayence by Dover, Ostend, and Rhine Railway, 25½ hours; Mayence to Basle (railway) 9 hours. Or

London to Cologne by Antwerp, 28 hours; Cologne to Frankfurt (steamer and railway), 15 hours; Frankfurt to Basle (railway), $8\frac{1}{2}$ hours (or through to Zürich, 11 hours).

A cheaper but slower route is by Rotterdam and the Rhine.

From Basle the traveller may go—

To Lucerne (railway).

To Berne (railway).

To Zürich (railway).

To Geneva by Bienne, Neuchâtel, Lausanne, &c. (railways and steamer).

To Schaffhausen (railway).

To Constance (railway and steamer).

b. FRIEDRICHSHAFEN may be reached—

London to Mayence, $25\frac{1}{2}$ hours; Mayence to Friedrichshafen, 12 hours.

London to Paris, 11 hours; Paris to Friedrichshafen, by Forbach and Ludwigshafen, $25\frac{1}{2}$ hours. This is a very pleasant way of entering Switzerland. From Friedrichshafen the traveller may go to Zürich by Romanshorn (steamer and railway), or to Coire by railway.

c. NEUCHÂTEL may be reached—

London to Paris, 11 hours; Paris to Salins by Dijon, 9 hours; Salins to Neuchâtel, about 50 miles, by rail all the way. This is the most direct and quickest route to Switzerland.

d. GENEVA may be reached—

London to Paris, 11 hours; Paris to Geneva by Macon (railway), $14\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

a or *b* will be adopted by those who wish to visit first Lucerne or the Bernese Oberland; *d* by those who aim at Chamouni and Zermatt.

The traveller with his knapsack who requires no more than a night's lodging at Paris may drive at once to one of the inns opposite the terminus of the Chemin de Fer de l'Est; whence he will have to start in the morning, if he travels by routes *a*, *c*, or *d*.

For the guidance of travellers, skeleton tours are here given, adapted to the convenience and taste of persons of different degrees of bodily strength, and using different modes of conveyance.

The two first tours are tolerably complete; other tours are framed so as to show what may be done within a given time; but no sounder advice can be given to those who desire real and thorough enjoyment in travelling than carefully to abstain from doing all that can be done in the time at their disposal. The grandest scenes of nature cannot be fully apprehended at a glance, and the impression which will be retained of sublime objects seen repeatedly, and under varying conditions of weather and light, will be far more prized than the crowd of imperfect images that can alone be carried away by a weary traveller in the course of an always hurried advance from one place to another.

Each traveller must, however, decide for himself the spots in which he may choose to halt, and the following outlines may conveniently be used for any portion of the alpine chain which it is desired to explore. The difficult passes are not included, as those who are able to cross them ought to be prepared by previous training and knowledge of the country.

A.—TOUR FOR PERSONS WHO DO NOT RIDE: about six weeks of easy travelling. Those portions which cannot be traversed in a carriage are marked as Char-road. A few easy excursions, which may be accomplished in a *chaise à porteur*, are given in italics.

Basle.
 Münsterthal.
 Bienne.
 Weissenstein.
 Lucerne.
 Weggis, by steamer.
Ascend Righi, and return.
 Flüelen, by steamer.
 Drive to Ältorf, and return.
 Lucerne, by steamer.
 Thun, by Entlebuch.
 Interlaken, by steamer.
 Lauterbrunnen, and thence to Grindelwald, by char; returning to Interlaken.
 Brienz, by steamer.
 Reichenbach, by char.
Visit Giesbach, and return to Interlaken.
 Thun.
 Bern.
 Freyburg.
 Lausanne.
 Geneva.
 Sallanches.
 Chamouni, by char.
Montanvert.
Flegère.
 Return to Geneva.
 Vevay, by steamer.

Chillon. (Hôtel Byron.)
 Bex. (Making an excursion by char to Sepey, in the Val des Ormonds, and returning to the high road at Aigle.
 Sierre, by Martigny and Sion.
 Excursion by char to the Baths of Leuk, and return to high road.
 Brieg.
 Domo d' Ossola, by Simplon.
 Baveno.
 Borromean Islands.
 Luino, by boat.
 Lugano.
 Boat to Porlezza; thence by char to Menaggio, and by boat to Varenna or Bellagio.
 Chiavenna.
 Andeer, by Splügen.
 Coire.
 Sargans, visiting on the way the Baths of Pfeffers.
 Wallenstadt.
 Wesen.
 Carriage to Rapperschwyl, and steamer on Lake of Zürich.
 Schaffhausen.
 Constance.
 Friedrichshafen, by steamer.

B.—The foregoing Route may be varied by going at first from Basle to Zürich by Railway.

Horgen, Zug, and Immensee.
Ascend the Righi and descend to Weggis.
 Flüelen, by steamer.
 Lucerne.
 Sarnen, &c., by the *Brunig*: carriage road to Reichenbach and Brientz (Giesbach by boat).

Interlaken.
 Lauterbrunnen and Grindelwald, returning to
 Interlaken.
 (Thun, &c., as in preceding route.)

C.—ROUTE BY BRIDLE-PATHS AND CARRIAGE-ROADS, including most of the remarkable scenery of the Central Alps. Three months. It is assumed that wherever there is a good carriage-road it should be used. A few excursions on foot are given in italics.

Basle to Lucerne, by Railway; or by Schaffhausen and Zürich.

Ascend the Rigi from Arth or Im-mensee.

Descend to Weggis.

Return to Lucerne.—Mount Pilate.

By Stanz to Engelberg.

By Surenen Pass to Altdorf.

By Andermatt to Hospital.

Pass of the Furca to the Grimsel.

Excursion to the Lower Glacier of the Aar.

Baths of Reichenbach.

Pass of the Scheideck.

Faulhorn.

Grindelwald.

Excursion to the Lower Glacier of Grindelwald.

Wengern Alp to Lauterbrunnen.

Mürren and Fall of Schmadribach.

Interlaken.

Excursion to the Giesbach, and back.

—Wimmis and ascent of Niesen.

Thun.

Saanen, by the Simmenthal.

Vevey, by the Dent de Jaman.

Chillon, &c.

Lausanne.

Geneva.

Excursion to the Salève.

Sallenches.

Chamouni.

Montanvert.

Breven.

Martigny.

Orsières.

Cormayeur, by Col de Ferret.

Ascent of the Cramont.

Aosta.

Excursion to the Hospice of the St. Bernard, and return.

Châtillon.

St. Jean de Gressonay, by Brus-sone.

Mollia, by Riva and the Col di Val Dobbia.

Varallo.

Orta.

Excursion to the Motterone.

Vanzone in the Val Anzasca, by Vo-gogna.

Macugnaga.

** Matmark or Saas, by the Monte Moro.*

Sion.

Evolena.

St. Luc, in Einfisch Thal.

Gruben, in Turtman Thal.

St. Niklaus.

Zermatt.

Riffelberg and Gorner Grat.

Ascent to Schwarze See and Hörnli.

Visp, in the valley of the Rhone.

Bel Alp.

Æggischhorn Hotel.

Ascend the Aeggischhorn.

Brieg.

Domo d'Ossola, by Simplon.

Baveno.

Borromean Isles.

Luino.

Lugano.

Excursion to Monte Salvatore.

By Porlezza and Menaggio to Bel-lagio, on the Lake of Como.

Varenna.

Lecco, by the Val Sassina.

Como, by Erba.

Colico, by steamer.

Chiavenna.

Andeer, by Splügen.

Coire, by Via Mala.

Ragatz and Pfeffers.

Wesen, by Wallenstadt.

Stachelberg.

Altdorf, by Klausen Pass.

Schwytz.

Glarus, by Muotta Thal.

St. Gall.

Rorschach.

Friedrichshafen.

* Those who fear to undertake the Pass of the Moro may vary the route by returning from Macugnaga to Vogogna, proceeding thence by steamer on the Lago Maggiore to Locarno or Magadino, and thence by Bellinzona and Airolo over the Nüfenen Pass to Obergesteln in the Upper Valais. From Obergesteln to the Æggischhorn, thence to Zermatt, returning to Visp and Brieg, and thence by the Simplon to Domo d'Ossola. The above route would be rejoined at Baveno.

D.—TOUR OF 14 OR 16 DAYS, hard travelling and fine weather.

Days.		Days.	
1	Schaffhausen.	7	By Lauterbrunnen and Interlaken to Frütigen.
	Rhine Fall.	8	By Gemmi to Leukerbad.
	Zürich. Or	9	Martigny and Col de Balme.
	Friedrichshafen.	10	Chamouni.
1	Romanshorn.	11	
	Zug. Or	12	
	Basle.	13	Geneva.
	Lucerne.	14	Tour of the Lake to Lausanne.
2	Rigi.	15	Bern.
3	Altorf.	16	Basle.
	Andermatt.	3, 4, and 5 may be shortened to one day by crossing the Brünig to Meyringen.	
4	Grimsel.		
5	Reichenbach and Rosenlauri.		
6	By Grindelwald to Wengern Alp.		

E.—TOUR FOR MODERATE PEDESTRIANS, keeping to the higher parts of the Swiss and Savoy Alps. It is assumed that some days of rest should be allowed to intervene, and that the passes or ascents marked in italics should not be attempted except in settled fine weather, and with experienced guides.

Days.		Days.	
1	Friedrichshafen by steamer to Rorschach; thence by rail to Ragatz; visit Pfäfers; sleep at Coire.	21	Baths of Leuk, by Gemmi Pass.
2	Diligence to Lenz, walk over the Albula Pass to Ponte; sleep at Samaden.	22	<i>Ascend the Torrenthorn.</i>
3	Visit Rosegg or Mortiratsch Glacier; sleep at Pontresina.	23	By Viesch, or by the Lötschsattel, to Hotel on the <i>Æggischhorn</i> .
4	Ascend the <i>Piz Lanquard</i> .	24	<i>Æggischhorn</i> , Aletsch Glacier, &c.
5	To Casaccia, by Maloya Pass.	25	
6	Ardeer, by Forcella Pass and Avers Thal.	26	To Saas, by Viesch and Visp.
7	Via Mala to Reichenau or Flims.	27	Excursion to Fee Alp; sleep at Matmark.
8	To Elm, by Segnes Pass.	28	Macugnaga by Monte Moro.
9	Baths of Stachelberg, by the Richetli Pass.	29	Excursion to Macugnaga Glacier.
10	Excursion to Sand Alp.	30	Sleep at Vanzone.
11	Klausen Pass to Altorf.	31	Varallo, by Val Mastalone.
12	Surenen Pass to Engelberg.	32	Alagna.
13	<i>Ascend the Titlis</i> , and sleep at the Inn on the Engstlen Alp.	33	Exc. to Pile Alp and Val di Bours.
14	To Im Hof, and Grimsel Hospice.	34	Gressoney, by Col d'Ollen or Col di Val Dobbia.
15	Sidelhorn and Oberaar Glacier.	35	<i>Ascend the Grauhaupt.</i>
16	Glacier of the Rhone.	36	Breuil, <i>by the Cimes Blanches</i> , or in two days by Brüssone and Châtillon.
17	<i>Strahleck Pass</i> to Grindelwald.	37	To Riffelberg Hotel, <i>by the Théodule Pass</i> .
18	Inn on the Wengern Alp.	38	Excursions about Zermatt.
19	By Lauterbrunnen to the <i>châlet</i> of the Steinberg Alp.	39	
20	To Kandersteg, <i>by the Tschingel Glacier and Gasteren Thal</i> .	40	
		41	Sleep at St. Nicolas.
		42	<i>By Turtmanthal and Meiden Pass to Luc.</i>
		43	Arpitetta Alp and Zinal.
		44	Evolena, by Torrent Pass.

Days.

45 *Col de Collon to Prerayen.*46 *Valpellina to Aosta.*47 *Cormayeur.*48 *Ascend the Cramont.*49 *To Chamouni, by Col de Bon-*50 *homme, &c.*

Days.

51 *Breven.*52 *Jardin.*

From 10 to 14 days additional
should be allowed for rest and de-
tention by bad weather.

§ 3. MONEY.

The coinage of Switzerland, by a decree of the Diet of 1850, has been reduced to conformity with that of France. The current money is francs and centimes, and accounts are now kept in these, the old Swiss batz being no longer a legal tender. This new and uniform coinage for the whole of Switzerland is distinguished by the word *HELVETIA* on the obverse, and is amongst the best in Europe.

The silver coins consist of pieces of 5 francs, 2 francs, 1 franc, and $\frac{1}{2}$ franc (50 centimes). The small coins consist of pieces of 5, 10, and 20 centimes, struck in base metal, and easier to carry than French or English copper. Centimes are sometimes called *rappen*. The old batz was worth 15 centimes. The old or Swiss franc was a French franc and a half.

Previously to this salutary change there was hardly a country in Europe which had so complicated a currency as Switzerland. Almost every canton had a coinage of its own, and those coins that were current in one canton would not pass in the next; and as a change is contemplated in England, it may be interesting to know that, within six months after the new system was introduced, all trace of the old denominations was gone, except that the expression "*franc de France*," instead of "*franc*," was common. In remote districts the children begging screamed for centimes as if they had never heard of any other coin.

French Napoleons and francs, current all over Switzerland, are the best money the traveller can take with him; but English sovereigns and bank-notes are usually taken at inns throughout Switzerland and on the Italian lakes, at a value of 25 francs.

A very safe method of taking money is by circular notes issued by Coutts & Co., Herries & Co., the London and Westminster Bank, and other banks, payable at all the large towns in Europe. They may be procured for any sum from 10*l.* upwards.

The coinage of Piedmont and Lombardy is the same as that of France; but the old coinage of Piedmont, and Austrian *zwanzigers*, are still in circulation in the remoter districts.

§ 4. MEASURES.—DISTANCES.—ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH SYSTEM.

In 1848 by the New Federal Constitution it was decreed that the *Swiss foot* should consist of 30 centimètres, or $\frac{1}{10}$ ths of a French *mètre*:—that 16,000 of these feet, or 4800 *mètres*, should go to a *Swiss league* = 2 Eng. miles, 7 furlongs, 190 yards = 2.983 Eng. miles:— $23\frac{1}{4}$ Swiss leagues to a degree. A Swiss post is 3 Swiss leagues = 9 Eng. miles, nearly.

Upon this authentic basis the measurement of distances on the roads of Switzerland has been commenced, and league-posts have been partially erected.

On most maps the heights above the sea-level are indicated in *Pieds de Paris*, or Old French feet.

1 mètre . . .	=	3·281 Eng. feet	=	3 feet 3 inches, nearly.
1 kilomètre . .	=	0·621 Eng. mile	=	3-5ths or 5-8ths of a mile, nearly.
1 Old French foot	=	1·066 Eng. foot	=	1 foot 1 inch, nearly.
1 French league	=	2·485 Eng. miles	=	2½ miles, nearly.
1 Swiss league .	=	2·983 Eng. miles	=	3 miles, nearly.
Old Swiss stunde	=	3·28 Eng. miles	=	3¼ miles, nearly.
1 Swiss arpent .	=	0·89 Eng. acres	=	9-10ths of an acre, nearly.
1 Swiss pound .	=	1·102 lb. avoird.	=	½ Fr. kilog. = 1 lb. 1 oz., nearly.
1 Piedmont mile	=	1·503 Eng. mile	=	1½ mile and 57 yards.
1 German mile .	=	4·602 Eng. miles	=	4½ miles, nearly.

Tables of Measures.

Mètres to English Feet.			French Feet to English Feet.		
Mètres.	English Feet.		French Feet.	English Feet.	
	Accurate.	Approx.		Accurate.	Approx.
1	3·2809	3¼	1	1·0658	1
2	6·5618	6½	2	2·1315	2
3	9·8427	9¾	3	3·1973	3
4	13·1236	13	4	4·2631	4¼
5	16·4045	16½	5	5·3288	5¼
6	19·6854	19½	6	6·3946	6¼
7	22·9663	23	7	7·4604	7½
8	26·2472	26¼	8	8·5261	8½
9	29·5281	29½	9	9·5919	9½

An approximate way of reducing French ft. to English ft. is to add ⅙th.

Kilomètres* to English Miles.				Centimètres to Inches.		
Kilomètre.	English Miles.	Kilomètre.	English Miles.	Centi-mètres.	Inches.	
	Approx.		Approx.		Accurate.	Approx.
1	½	8	5	1	·394	3⅜
2	1¼	9	5½	2	·788	3⅝
3	1¾	10	6	3	1·181	1
4	2½	20	12½	4	1·575	1½
5	3	30	18½	5	1·969	2
6	3½	40	24¾	6	2·362	2¼
7	4¼	50	31	7	2·756	2¾
				8	3·150	3
				9	3·543	3½

Leagues to Miles.			Square Measure.		
League.	English Miles.			Acres.	
	Accurate.	Approx.		Accurate.	Approx.
1 French league	2·485	2½	1 Swiss arpent	0·89	⅙
1 Swiss league	2·983	3	1 hectare	·27456	¼
1 Swiss stunde	3·28	3¼			
1 Swiss post	3 Swiss leagues	9			

* 1 kilomètre = 4 furlongs 213 yards 1 foot 11 inches.

Temperature.			Temperature.		
Fahr.	Cent.	Reaumur.	Fahr.	Cent.	Reaumur.
°	°	°	°	°	°
212	100	80	80	26·7	21·3
200	93·3	74·7	70	21·1	16·9
150	65·6	52·4	60	15·6	12·4
140	60·0	48·0	50	10·0	8·0
130	54·4	43·6	40	4·4	3·6
120	48·9	39·1	30	— 1·1	— 6·9
110	43·3	34·7	20	— 6·7	— 5·3
100	37·8	30·2	10	— 12·2	— 9·8
90	32·2	25·8	0	— 17·8	— 14·2

The distances in this work have been reduced to English miles, which are always to be understood wherever the word *mile* alone is used.

To calculate the distance along the mountain-paths is almost hopeless. In this work, therefore, the distances along the mountain-paths have been reckoned as the natives reckon them, in *hours*, meaning thereby the distance which a mule with an ordinary load usually travels in an hour; and this is to be understood whenever the word *hour* alone is used.

The hour of course varies according to the nature of the ground. In very steep ascents it does not exceed 2 miles, in lesser acclivities $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles; but on the mountains it is *never more* than $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It has been ascertained by an experienced Alpine traveller that to clear 2 miles an hour up a steep mountain requires *very* good walking. An active walker will gain 5 or 10 minutes an hour on mules during an ascent, and still more on the descent; but persons not accustomed to exertion, or unused to mountain work, will find difficulty in keeping up with the mules when the ascent is steep. The mules are nearly as long on the descent as on the ascent; and therefore no difference is made in the ordinary reckoning of distances whether the path be up or down hill. It may be noted once for all, that, when nothing to the contrary is stated in the text, the time given in the following pages for going from one place to another by a mountain path may be reduced by one-fifth in the case of active pedestrians who are able to maintain their pace throughout the entire distance.

The sudden and almost simultaneous establishment of the *electric telegraph* along all the great high roads of the country was very remarkable. There is now scarcely a second-rate town or village that is not thus connected; and from any of them a message not exceeding 20 words can be sent for the *small charge* of *one franc* to any part of Switzerland. Luxurious or anxious travellers can thus, before starting in the morning, secure quarters for the night, or even order their dinner beforehand. The mode of arranging the wire is excessively primitive and economical, but seems to be effectual. It is stated that the insulation of the wires is not affected by their being covered with snow, and in many instances they are in contact with the foliage of trees.—It is singular and striking to see the telegraphic wires stretched from rock to rock along the pathless shores of the lake of Lucerne, and surmounting the steep ascent and gloomy soli-

tudes of the Gries and other Alpine Passes. The central office of the Telegraph is at Berne.

Postal Regulations :—A uniform postage of 10 c. for letters below 10 grammes, if not prepaid 15 cents. For distances within 2 leagues 5 c. For letters and parcels not exceeding 250 gr. ($\frac{1}{2}$ lb.) 20 c.

§ 5. MODES OF TRAVELLING IN SWITZERLAND.—POSTING.

The means of travelling in Switzerland have been greatly improved and increased within the last 30 years. The high roads are excellent, and those over the Alps are marvels of engineering skill. Where railways are not made, diligences run; and since 1823, when the first experiment with steam was made on the Lake of Geneva, every one of the large lakes is navigated by steamboats.

Posting is much more commonly resorted to by travellers in Switzerland since the Federal Government adopted in 1852 a general and uniform system of Posting (Extrapost), which has been introduced into all parts of the country, and all the great roads are now supplied with post-horses, except where the railways have been completed. There is still however difficulty in posting into Italy, except over the St. Gotthard; and in Savoy. Full information respecting the posting system may be obtained from the Official Swiss Post Book (*Tarif Suisse de la Poste aux Chevaux*), or the smaller *Extra Post Tarif*, which every traveller ought to procure on entering Switzerland.

Horses are charged 4 fr. each per post of 9 miles. *Postboy's* pay, according to tariff, is 1 fr. 50 c. for 1 or 2 horses; 2 fr. for 3 horses; 2 fr. 50 c. for 4 horses per post; but if he behaves well it is usual to give him 4 fr. or the price of a horse: price for *Carriage*, when furnished, 2 fr. per post.

The horses and harness are generally good; the postboys tolerably skilful, but they get over the ground very slowly. The *regulation pace* is a post in 1 hour 30 min., or 6 miles an hour, and is not often exceeded. Upon certain stages up hill the tariff compels you to take an extra horse, or leader (*renfort*), or to pay for it if not taken, sometimes with very little apparent reason. There is very little trouble in posting; the prices are fixed, and the postboy's pay is included.

Since the extension of railways, it has become very unusual to bring a carriage from England, and such a thing as a regular travelling-carriage is seldom seen in Switzerland. Those who wish to be luxurious, and do not mind the expense and in many instances the inconvenience of having a carriage attached to them, may hire a carriage for the journey at Geneva, Zurich, Lucerne, or occasionally at other towns in Switzerland.

In hiring a Swiss carriage for the journey let the traveller ascertain, before he concludes the bargain, under what class the vehicle would be ranged by the posting laws, and what number of horses will be required to draw it.

It is a great convenience in Switzerland for a solitary traveller that he may post in a car with *one horse*, the charges being per post—for 1 horse, 4 fr.; car, 2 fr.; postboy, 1 fr. 50 c.; but an extra trinkgeld is expected.

Tolls for the roads and bridges are abolished throughout Switzerland, and the owners indemnified.

TARIF FOR POSTING.

Dis- tances in Posts.	CHARGE FOR HORSES.											
	1 Horse.		2 Horses.		3 Horses.		4 Horses.		5 Horses.		6 Horses.	
	Fr.	Ct.	Fr.	Ct.	Fr.	Ct.	Fr.	Ct.	Fr.	Ct.	Fr.	Ct.
4	2	—	4	—	6	—	8	—	10	—	12	—
5	2	50	5	—	7	50	10	—	12	50	15	—
6	3	—	6	—	9	—	12	—	15	—	18	—
7	3	50	7	—	10	50	14	—	17	50	21	—
8	4	—	8	—	12	—	16	—	20	—	24	—
9	4	50	9	—	13	50	18	—	22	50	27	—
10	5	—	10	—	15	—	20	—	25	—	30	—
11	5	50	11	—	16	50	22	—	27	50	33	—
12	6	—	12	—	18	—	24	—	30	—	36	—
13	6	50	13	—	19	50	26	—	32	50	39	—
14	7	—	14	—	21	—	28	—	35	—	42	—
15	7	50	15	—	22	50	30	—	37	50	45	—
16	8	—	16	—	24	—	32	—	40	—	48	—
17	8	50	17	—	25	50	34	—	42	50	51	—
18	9	—	18	—	27	—	36	—	45	—	54	—
19	9	50	19	—	28	50	38	—	47	50	57	—
20	10	—	20	—	30	—	40	—	50	—	60	—
21	10	50	21	—	31	50	42	—	52	50	63	—
22	11	—	22	—	33	—	44	—	55	—	66	—
23	11	50	23	—	34	50	46	—	57	50	69	—
24	12	—	24	—	36	—	48	—	60	—	72	—

§ 6. DILIGENCES—LUGGAGE.

Well-appointed *Diligences*, though not very fast, running at convenient hours and very moderate fares, now traverse almost every road in Switzerland daily. The result is, that by far the greater number of persons travel by them in preference to the voiturier's carriage, whose prices are also kept down by the competition of the diligences. The serious objection is, that, except from the coupé, very little of the beauty of the country is seen by those who travel by them.

They belong to the Federal Government, are managed by persons officially appointed, and are attached to the post-office, as in Germany, conformably with an enactment of the new Swiss Constitution of 1848. A list of diligences, &c. (*Kursanzeiger*, *Indicateur des Services Suisses*), is to be bought at the offices for a few sous. The places are numbered, and all baggage exceeding a certain fixed weight is charged extra, and often greatly increases the expense of this mode of conveyance, which is one reason among many why travellers should reduce their baggage to the smallest possible compass. The public conveyances are now quite as well organised as in Germany.

TARIF FOR POSTING.

POSTBOY'S DRINKMONEY.						CHARGE FOR POST CARRIAGES.					
For a Carriage with 1 horse or 2 horses.		For a Carriage with 3 horses.		For a Carriage with 4 or more horses.		For a Carriage with 1 horse or 2 horses.		For a Carriage with 3 horses.		For a Carriage with 4 horses or 6 horses.	
Fr.	Ct.	Fr.	Ct.	Fr.	Ct.	Fr.	Ct.	Fr.	Ct.	Fr.	Ct.
—	75	1	—	1	25	1	—	1	50	2	—
—	95	1	25	1	55	1	30	1	90	2	50
1	15	1	50	1	85	1	50	2	30	3	—
1	35	1	75	2	20	1	80	2	70	3	50
1	50	2	—	2	50	2	—	3	—	4	—
1	70	2	25	2	80	2	30	2	40	4	50
1	90	2	50	3	15	2	50	3	80	5	—
2	05	2	75	3	45	2	80	4	20	5	50
2	25	3	—	3	75	3	—	4	50	6	—
2	45	3	25	4	05	3	30	4	90	6	50
2	65	3	50	4	35	3	50	5	20	7	—
2	85	3	75	4	70	3	80	5	70	7	50
3	—	4	—	5	—	4	—	6	—	8	—
3	20	4	25	5	30	4	30	6	40	8	50
3	40	4	50	5	60	4	50	6	80	9	—
3	55	4	75	5	95	4	80	7	20	9	50
3	75	5	—	6	25	5	—	7	50	10	—
3	90	5	25	6	55	5	30	7	90	10	50
4	15	5	50	6	85	5	50	8	30	11	—
4	35	5	75	7	20	5	80	8	70	11	50
4	50	6	—	7	50	6	—	9	—	12	—

The conductors, especially with a small additional fee, are generally civil; the clerks, &c., at the diligence offices are occasionally insolent and disobliging. The diligences, as in France, are horsed with the post-horses, and go from the same offices, so that there is no remedy in the case of annoyance or incivility except to take a *voiturier*.

There is a very convenient plan adopted as to places. The diligence offices will book any number of passengers up to a certain hour. When the time for starting arrives, all the luggage and as many passengers as the vehicle will hold are put into the diligence, which is far superior to the French diligence, and the rest of the passengers are sent by other carriages, called "*supplements*," or "*beiwagen*," of which there are often 3 or 4. It is the fashion to object to *supplements*; but if there is a party of 4 or 5, they can generally get a supplement to themselves, and travel very comfortably, except that the supplement is usually changed at every stage. Unless at the place from which the diligence starts, it is useless to take places for the *coupé*, for at the intermediate stations the *coupé* is often found full, and the traveller proceeds in a supplement. The pace along level ground never exceeds 6 miles an hour; at the smallest symptom of a hill this falls to a walk: down hill they occasionally go

rather faster; and to those who have not become hardened by use it is rather a nervous thing to see the heavy diligence turn round the corners of the zigzags in the face of precipices, with the reins of the 5 horses flying loose, and the horses apparently under no control. The horses however know the road, and, except in snow, an accident is seldom heard of.

The conductor's fee and the postilion's trinkgeld are included in the fare.

Travellers in Switzerland will frequently be glad to avail themselves of the public conveyances to forward their *luggage* from one place to another, while they are making pedestrian excursions among the mountains. In such cases, they have only to book their packages at the coach-office, after carefully addressing them, and, in some cases, entering a specification of their value in a printed form. They will then receive a receipt, and the article will be forwarded and taken care of until claimed.

In making application for packages so consigned, as well as for letters at the post-office, the Englishman should present his name printed or very legibly written, as our pronunciation is frequently unintelligible to foreigners, and without this precaution the applicant may be told that his luggage has not arrived, when in reality it is all the while lying in the *dépôt*. The traveller may also request to look over the packages in search of his own.

Unhappily complaints are numerous of luggage being opened *in transitu* or in *dépôt*, and of articles being purloined from it.

Many complaints are made as to the carelessness of the officials in Swiss Post-offices, even in the large towns, and many persons find it expedient to have their letters addressed to the care of a banker or a well-known hotel-keeper.

§ 7. VOITURIER OR LOHNKUTSCHER—CHARS-À-BANC.

The excellently organised systems of posting and public conveyances introduced since 1849, which place Switzerland on a par with any country of the continent—render travellers in a great degree independent of the *voiturier*, or *lohnkutscher*, or *vetturino*—whom formerly they were obliged to engage as soon as they crossed the Swiss frontier.

The Railway termini are the head-quarters of the *voituriers*; at all of them there are many persons who keep job-horses for hire, and will either conduct the traveller themselves, or send coachmen in their employ. *Return* horses and carriages are sometimes to be met with, and the traveller may save some expense by availing himself of them.

Before making an engagement, it is prudent to consult the landlord of the inn, or some other respectable inhabitant, to recommend a person of approved character to be employed. As there are many very roguish *voituriers*, ready to take advantage of the traveller on all occasions, such a recommendation will be a guarantee, to a certain extent, for good behaviour. The landlord should be referred to apart, not in presence of the coachman, nor, indeed, with his cognizance. Besides ascertaining that the *voiturier* is a respectable man, that his horses are good, and his carriage (when a carriage is also required) is clean and stout, it is desirable in many cases that he should speak French as well as German, and, in all, that he be acquainted with the roads to be traversed. If the carriage is hired for a complete tour, the engagement should, in the first instance, not be made for any specific time, at least not for a long period, until man

and horses have been tried and have given satisfaction. It is better to take him on from day to day, holding out the prospect of his being continued if he behaves well. It should be clearly understood whether the well-mannered individual who is the proprietor of the carriage and makes the bargain with you, will or will not be the driver, otherwise he may hand you over to the charge of a subordinate.

The usual charge per diem is 15 francs, and 1 franc trinkgeld or bonnemain, for a one-horse vehicle; 25 francs, and 2 francs trinkgeld, for a pair-horse vehicle; and so on. In the height of the season it is from 3 to 5 francs a-day more, and over the great passes it is higher still.

If the carriage is discharged at a distance from home, back-fare will be demanded.

For this consideration the coachman keeps himself and his horses, supplying fresh ones if his own fall ill or lame; he ought also to pay all tolls, and the charge for leaders (vorspann) to drag the carriage up steep ascents. These two last conditions, however, are not always acceded to, and these charges often fall upon the master.

It is advisable, before setting out on a long tour, to have an agreement in writing drawn up. (See Forms of Contract in Murray's 'Handbook of Travel Talk'.)

It is, however, now become unusual to engage a voiturier except for a particular journey of two or three days. Without troubling the traveller with the complications of back-fares, &c., the rate may be reckoned in the season for a good carriage and pair at about 40 fr. a-day over the more level parts, and 60 fr. a-day over the great passes, all charges, back-fare, vorspann, bonnemain, &c., included. A return voiturier will take one-half or two-thirds of these prices.

The usual rate of travelling is from 10 to 15 leagues, 32 to 46 miles a-day, proceeding at the rate of about 5 miles an hour. Whilst on the road the voiturier goes as fast as the diligence or post-horses, but it is necessary to halt in the middle of the day, about two hours, to rest the horses; and the distances which one pair of horses will achieve by means of walking up the smallest ascents, and using the break skilfully on all descents, are incredible.

Throughout Switzerland, *one-horse calèches*, or chaises, *einspänner*, are becoming common, instead of chars-à-banc, and may be hired at every inn. They hold comfortably 2 or 3 persons, and are furnished with a hood affording shelter from rain, while not shutting out the view. In front there is a board for the driver. They go at a rate of 5 or 6 m. an hour, except on very billy roads. The fare is about 1 franc an English mile; and the driver receives 1 fr. trinkgeld for 8 or 10 miles. The luggage may be attached behind on springs.

The char-à-banc, the national carriage of French Switzerland, is nearly obsolete. It may be described as the body of a gig, or a bench, as its name implies, placed sideways upon four wheels, surrounded by leather curtains made to draw, whence it has been compared to a four-post bedstead on wheels. It is a very strong and light vehicle, capable of carrying two persons, or three at a pinch, and will go on roads where no other species of carriage could venture. It is convenient, from being so low that one can jump in or alight without stopping the horse, while it is going on; but it is very jolting.

§ 8. RAILWAYS.

Down to the year 1855 the only railway in Switzerland was a short line from Zürich to Baden, a village in the neighbourhood. The reason of this was not, as generally supposed, the extreme natural difficulties of the country, Switzerland being in fact, with the exception of the passes through the central mountains of the Alps and the Jura, not a very difficult country. The lowlands, or parts round Berne, Aarau, Neuchâtel, Lausanne, &c., are not worse than many parts of the south of England; and by means of the valleys of the Rhine and the Rhone, railways can penetrate deep into the Alps with remarkable ease. The real difficulty consisted in the extraordinary and incredible jealousies between not only the different cantons, but the different communes or parishes, and the legal difficulties in obtaining the land. A change of government, however, having taken place in 1848, a system of railways was planned by the Department of Public Works, and has been partially carried into execution, many of the lines being executed by English engineers and with English capital.

1. *The Central Swiss Railway*, from Basle through the Unter-Haenstein to Olten, and thence to Berne and Thun, with branches to Soleure and Bienne, Lucerne and Aarau, open.

2. *The North-Eastern Railway*, from Romanshorn on the lake of Constance to Zürich, and thence to Aarau on the Central Railway, open.

3. From Basle, along the N. bank, or Baden side of the Rhine, to Waldshut and Schaffhausen; continued to Constance—the *Rheinfall Railway*, from Schaffhausen to Winterthur and Zürich,

4. *The United Swiss*, from Coire (with hopes of a tunnel through the Alps at some future time) to Rorschach on the lake of Constance, open; with branches: *a.*—from Sargans, along the side of the lake of Wallenstadt, to Rapperschwyl and Zürich; *b.*—from Rorschach, by St. Gall and Winterthur, to Zürich; and *c.*—from Wesen to Glarus. The main line has been executed by Mr. Pickering, an English engineer. The neighbouring districts have been minutely surveyed in order to ascertain the best place for the tunnel through the Alps; and it is announced that the Lukmanier pass has been finally selected. It will require a tunnel 15 miles long. No pass has been discovered less than 6200 feet high; and independently of the difficulty of surmounting that height, instead of tunnelling the ridge, the railway would be then impassable on account of the snow during many months of the year. Places have been found in which a shorter tunnel would be sufficient, but at such a depth that no shafts could be obtained, the advantage of this pass being that many shafts can be sunk at an average depth of 200 yards. By means of the proposed tunnel, the summit level would be about 5000 feet.

5. *The Western Railway*, from Bienne, by Neuchâtel and Yverdon, to Morges and Lausanne, and thence to Geneva, open. From Lausanne to Villeneuve, on the lake of Geneva, up the valley of the Rhone towards the Simplon, is open to Sion (in progress to Brieg).

6. From Pontarlier, on the French frontier, by Salins, to Neuchâtel (shortest way to Switzerland), connecting branches from Neuchâtel to Chaux de Fonds and Locle, and from Neuchâtel to Paris, through Dôle.

7. *The Ligne d'Italie* to connect Geneva with the Simplon Pass by the S. side of the lake of Geneva. The section from Bouveret, on the lake, by St. Maurice, to Sion in the Valais, is alone open at present (1865).

8. Railway from Berne to Fribourg and Lausanne.

9. Railways are also open from Lyons and Macon to Geneva.

The earthworks on the United Swiss line were made, under English engineers and foremen, by Piedmontese navvies, the Swiss not being found suitable for the work. These Piedmontese are said to be powerful men, and to work as hard, though not so skilfully, as the English navvy, living at the same time upon very poor food, and saving the greatest part of their wages.

The luggage arrangements on the Swiss railways are if possible more inconvenient than on the French or German railways; and there is a system of extortion for conveyance to and from the stations which the traveller should be on his guard against.

The Swiss railway carriages are generally on the American model, with cross seats and a passage down the middle.

§ 9. GUIDES—PORTERS.

Guides by profession abound in Switzerland; several of the guides of Chamouni and the Bernese Oberland have acquired a wide-spread and well-earned reputation. Those who have earned a character for especial skill and intrepidity in difficult and dangerous expeditions in the higher Alps are usually engaged during the entire season by members of the Alpine Club or other adventurous travellers. In general, the practice of taking the same guide for an entire tour is becoming more and more common amongst Alpine travellers, and in this way many have acquired local knowledge of a considerable portion of the Alpine chain. Thus guides may be considered in two capacities, *General* and *Local*.

General Guides are to be found at Chamouni, Grindelwald, Interlaken, and also at Zürich, Lucerne, Berne, &c.; and it is by no means a bad plan for an inexperienced traveller or party to engage one of them for the tour, even though he should not have sufficient knowledge to act as guide over mountain-passes beyond his own peculiar district. He makes himself useful, not only in pointing out the way, but in acting as interpreter to those unacquainted with the language of the country, and also in relieving the traveller of the weight of his knapsack or travelling-bag, and in fact acts as *courier*, but at a far cheaper rate, and generally with more honesty. Such a guide should not, as a general rule, be engaged without the recommendation of an innkeeper or other respectable person, and it should be distinctly understood that the traveller is to be free to discharge him whenever he pleases, paying his expenses home, or a day's pay for each day's journey to be made on foot.

Local Guides are as a general rule indispensable in ascending very lofty mountains, in exploring glaciers, and in crossing the minor passes of the Alps, not traversed by highroads, but by mere bridle or foot paths, rarely used, and in many places not distinctly marked, or confounded with innumerable tracks of cattle. Nevertheless, travellers

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Down to the year 1855 the only railway in Switzerland was a short line from Zürich to Baden, a village in the neighbourhood. The reason of this was not, as generally supposed, the extreme natural difficulties of the country, Switzerland being in fact, with the exception of the passes through the central mountains of the Alps and the Jura, not a very difficult country. The lowlands, or parts round Berne, Aarau, Neuchâtel, Lausanne, &c., are not worse than many parts of the south of England; and by means of the valleys of the Rhine and the Rhone, railways can penetrate deep into the Alps with remarkable ease. The real difficulty consisted in the extraordinary and incredible jealousies between not only the different cantons, but the different communes or parishes, and the legal difficulties in obtaining the land. A change of government, however, having taken place in 1848, a system of railways was planned by the Department of Public Works, and has been partially carried into execution, many of the lines being executed by English engineers and with English capital.

1. *The Central Swiss Railway*, from Basle through the Unter-Hauenstein to Olten, and thence to Berne and Thun, with branches to Soleure and Bienne, Lucerne and Aarau, open.

2. *The North-Eastern Railway*, from Romanshorn on the lake of Constance to Zürich, and thence to Aarau on the Central Railway, open.

3. From Basle, along the N. bank, or Baden side of the Rhine, to Waldshut and Schaffhausen; continued to Constance—the *Rheinfall Railway*, from Schaffhausen to Winterthur and Zürich,

4. *The United Swiss*, from Coire (with hopes of a tunnel through the Alps at some future time) to Rorschach on the lake of Constance, open; with branches: *a.*—from Sargans, along the side of the lake of Wallenstadt, to Rapperschwyl and Zürich; *b.*—from Rorschach, by St. Gall and Winterthur, to Zürich; and *c.*—from Wesen to Glarus. The main line has been executed by Mr. Pickering, an English engineer. The neighbouring districts have been minutely surveyed in order to ascertain the best place for the tunnel through the Alps; and it is announced that the Lukmanier pass has been finally selected. It will require a tunnel 15 miles long. No pass has been discovered less than 6200 feet high; and independently of the difficulty of surmounting that height, instead of tunnelling the ridge, the railway would be then impassable on account of the snow during many months of the year. Places have been found in which a shorter tunnel would be sufficient, but at such a depth that no shafts could be obtained, the advantage of this pass being that many shafts can be sunk at an average depth of 200 yards. By means of the proposed tunnel, the summit level would be about 5000 feet.

5. *The Western Railway*, from Bienne, by Neuchâtel and Yverdon, to Morges and Lausanne, and thence to Geneva, open. From Lausanne to Villeneuve, on the lake of Geneva, up the valley of the Rhone towards the Simplon, is open to Sion (in progress to Brieg).

6. From Pontarlier, on the French frontier, by Salins, to Neuchâtel (shortest way to Switzerland), connecting branches from Neuchâtel to Chaux de Fonds and Locle, and from Neuchâtel to Paris, through Dôle.

7. *The Ligne d'Italie* to connect Geneva with the Simplon Pass by the S. side of the lake of Geneva. The section from Bouveret, on the lake, by St. Maurice, to Sion in the Valais, is alone open at present (1865).

8. Railway from Berne to Fribourg and Lausanne.

9. Railways are also open from Lyons and Macon to Geneva.

The earthworks on the United Swiss line were made, under English engineers and foremen, by Piedmontese navvies, the Swiss not being found suitable for the work. These Piedmontese are said to be powerful men, and to work as hard, though not so skilfully, as the English navvy, living at the same time upon very poor food, and saving the greatest part of their wages.

The luggage arrangements on the Swiss railways are if possible more inconvenient than on the French or German railways; and there is a system of extortion for conveyance to and from the stations which the traveller should be on his guard against.

The Swiss railway carriages are generally on the American model, with cross seats and a passage down the middle.

§ 9. GUIDES—PORTERS.

Guides by profession abound in Switzerland; several of the guides of Chamouni and the Bernese Oberland have acquired a wide-spread and well-earned reputation. Those who have earned a character for especial skill and intrepidity in difficult and dangerous expeditions in the higher Alps are usually engaged during the entire season by members of the Alpine Club or other adventurous travellers. In general, the practice of taking the same guide for an entire tour is becoming more and more common amongst Alpine travellers, and in this way many have acquired local knowledge of a considerable portion of the Alpine chain. Thus guides may be considered in two capacities, *General* and *Local*.

General Guides are to be found at Chamouni, Grindelwald, Interlaken, and also at Zürich, Lucerne, Berne, &c.; and it is by no means a bad plan for an inexperienced traveller or party to engage one of them for the tour, even though he should not have sufficient knowledge to act as guide over mountain-passes beyond his own peculiar district. He makes himself useful, not only in pointing out the way, but in acting as interpreter to those unacquainted with the language of the country, and also in relieving the traveller of the weight of his knapsack or travelling-bag, and in fact acts as *courier*, but at a far cheaper rate, and generally with more honesty. Such a guide should not, as a general rule, be engaged without the recommendation of an innkeeper or other respectable person, and it should be distinctly understood that the traveller is to be free to discharge him whenever he pleases, paying his expenses home, or a day's pay for each day's journey to be made on foot.

Local Guides are as a general rule indispensable in ascending very lofty mountains, in exploring glaciers, and in crossing the minor passes of the Alps, not traversed by highroads, but by mere bridle or foot paths, rarely used, and in many places not distinctly marked, or confounded with innumerable tracks of cattle. Nevertheless, travellers

having a good knowledge of German, in addition to some experience of mountain journeys, and provided with a good map, may cross some of these passes alone with impunity; but there are others, such as the Bonhomme, Mont Cervin, Monte Moro, &c., which no one would be justified in attempting without a guide. When snow is threatening to fall, or after a snow-storm has covered the path and obliterated the footsteps of preceding travellers, a guide may be required in situations where, under ordinary circumstances, his presence might be dispensed with. Of course, in clear weather, and over passes not crossing snow or glaciers, a guide is no more needed than he would be in any strange country, except that on the high mountains there is no one of whom to inquire the way, and that a mistake of the path might involve the disagreeable necessity of sleeping out on the mountain. A traveller of some experience is of opinion that upon an average, without a guide, 1 mile in 10 will be lost in mistakes of the way, even by practised mountaineers. No one, however, without thorough knowledge and experience of the high Alps, should be foolish enough to trust himself over ice or snow without a guide. It is entirely a new world; and when the slightest check occurs, an inexperienced person is utterly at a loss. He does not know what ice will bear him, where the crevasses run, where avalanches fall, or where the safe track is likely to be; and with the best ordinary judgment, is quite as likely to run into danger as to avoid it. One golden rule to those who take no guide is, always to leave two or three good hours of daylight as a margin beyond the utmost time which the route is calculated to occupy. Another excellent rule is, *never* take a short cut upon your own judgment. It is frequently wrong to cut off the most apparent zigzag; but the villagers will often, for a few sous, show wonderfully short cuts.

In the eastern parts of Switzerland, where there are *no* professional guides, the traveller is often obliged to place himself in the hands of some peasant or cowherd, whose sole knowledge of a pass lies, perhaps, in his having crossed it once or twice, perhaps, many years before. This demands additional caution.

The established rate of hire is 6 F. francs a-day, and in the Oberland 1 fr. bonnemain; but, in addition to this, there will be a claim for money to return, if dismissed at a distance from home, unless the employer find him a fresh master to take back. For this sum the guide provides for himself, and is expected to discharge all the duties of a domestic towards his employer. A first-rate guide is usually paid 8 or 10 francs a-day, with additional sums of 20 francs for each of the higher passes or more difficult ascents.

The guides at Chamouni form a corporation, and are subject to a number of stringent rules as to their employment, of which travellers and the best guides complain much. A monopoly has also been established in the Oberland, and in some other parts of Switzerland. In the Lower Valais it is a punishable offence for any one, not a professed guide, to carry a traveller's luggage!!

For the most part, the guides may be said to be obliging, intelligent, and hard-working men. Few who have employed them cannot bear testimony to their coolness, intrepidity, and tact, in moments of danger—in the difficult pass, in the midst of the snow-storm, or among the gaping clefts of the glaciers. It is in such situations that their knowledge of the

mountains, their experience of the weather, their strong arm and steady foot, are fully appreciated. The traveller should always follow the guide in crossing glaciers, and, in going over tracts covered with snow, should allow him to choose what his experience teaches to be the safest path.

A little civility and familiarity on the part of the employer—the offer of a cigar from the traveller's own case, or a glass of brandy from his private flask—will rarely be thrown away; on the contrary, it is likely to produce assiduity and communicativeness on the part of the guide. Many of them are fine and athletic men, and to carry for 8 or 10 hours a-day, and for a distance of 25 or 30 m., a load of 30 or 40 lbs. weight is made light of by them.

Some travellers content themselves with a mere porter to carry their baggage for them. Such a man is paid less than the professional guides; 3 or 4 fr. a-day will suffice for him. Those who travel in charrs or on horseback will find that the driver, or the man who accompanies the horse, will render unnecessary the employment of any other person in that capacity. At Chamouni, however, the guides must be hired distinct from the mules. When the travelling party includes ladies unaccustomed to mountain-work, a guide is required to attend on each, to lead down the horses where the path is steep, and to lend their arms to the fair travellers when the exigencies of the case require them to dismount and proceed on foot.

In making purchases, as in the choice of inns, travellers should be cautious of following blindly the advice of the guide, who too often regards the percentage offered or the quantity of liquor supplied to him more than the interest of his employer.

§ 10. HORSES AND MULES.—CHAISES-À-ORTEURS.

Previous to 1800, or even later, until Napoleon commenced the magnificent carriage-roads over the Alps, which will assist in immortalising his name, the only mode of conveying either passengers or goods across them was on the back of men, or of horses or mules. Even now, upon all the minor passes, the entire traffic is carried on by the same means. In other instances, where the beauties of scenery attract an influx of strangers, mules are kept for their conveyance, even where they are not required for the transport of merchandise.

The customary hire of a horse or mule throughout Switzerland, generally fixed by a printed tariff, amounts to 9 fr. a-day, and 1 fr. or 2 fr. to the man who takes care of it; at Chamouni it is 6 fr., but there a guide must also be taken. Back-fare must be paid if the animals are dismissed at a distance from home, and at so late an hour of the day that they cannot return before night.

The ponies that are used in the Bernese Oberland, on the Rigi, and in other parts of Switzerland, are clever animals, that will carry you up and down ascents perfectly impracticable to horses unused to the mountains; but they are perhaps excelled by the mules of Chamouni and other parts of Savoy. Of these the sagacity, strength, and sureness of foot are really wonderful.

The paths which they ascend or descend with ease are steeper than any staircase, sometimes with ledges of rock, 2 or 3 ft. high, instead of steps. Sometimes they are covered with broken fragments, between which the beasts must pick their way, at the risk of breaking their legs; at others they traverse a narrow ledge of the mountain, with an abyss on one side and a wall of rock on the other. In such dangerous passes the caution of the animal is very remarkable; he needs no rein to guide him, but will pick his own way, and find out the best path far better than his rider can direct him; and, in such circumstances, it is safer to let the reins hang loose, and trust entirely to his sagacity, than to perplex him by checking him with the curb, at a moment when, by confusing the animal, there will be risk of his losing his footing, and perhaps tumbling headlong. The rider who mounts a mule or mountain-horse must give up his preconceived notions of riding, and let the reins hang absolutely loose, otherwise he is in danger. There are very few instances of accidents from the falling of the animals; the only instance within the writer's knowledge happened to a gentleman who was a great horseman, and no doubt attempted to interfere with his mule. Those who are incredulous on this point should recollect that the horses constantly traverse the same paths in perfect safety with heavy loads on their backs, and no man near enough to interfere with them. Descending the passes on horseback is very disagreeable, and sometimes dangerous, and the rider should always dismount when requested to do so by the guide. In fact, those who can walk at all should, if they have not too much luggage, only hire the horses to the head of the pass, as they will be of very little use on the descent. Each saddle has a flap or pillion attached, on which a knapsack or carpet-bag not weighing more than about 30 lbs. may be carried. A portmanteau requires an extra mule. Side-saddles are now to be found wherever there are inns and regular mules or horses.

A tariff of the prices to be paid for horses in most places is in the *Indicateur*, p. 108.

Those who are unable or too infirm to ride or walk may be carried over the mountains in a "chaise-à-porteur" (Germ. Tragsessel; It. Portantina), which is nothing more than an arm-chair carried upon poles by two bearers in the manner of a sedan. In the Bernese Oberland two bearers will frequently undertake to carry a lady of light weight for many successive days over the ordinary passes; but, as a general rule, two, but in some places four extra bearers must be taken to relieve by turns, and each man expects 6 fr. a-day, and 3 fr. for each day of return. This is said to be a very uncomfortable mode of locomotion.

§ 11. SWISS INNS.

Switzerland is well provided with excellent inns. The great annual influx of strangers into the country is of the same importance to Switzerland that some additional branch of industry or commerce would be, and renders the profession of host most lucrative. Many of the Swiss innkeepers are very wealthy; in a great part of the country they appear to be the only wealthy

inhabitants. It is not uncommon to find an individual in this capacity who is magistrate, and it has happened that they are persons of such influence in their canton or commune that it is difficult to obtain redress against them for an injury or act of insolence, owing either to the interest they possess with the courts, or to their being absolutely themselves the justices. As a general rule, however, they are very respectable men, and no difficulties with them arise.

The approach to one of the first-rate hotels in the large towns, in the height of summer, exhibits rather a characteristic spectacle. The street before it is usually filled with several rows of vehicles of all sorts, from the dirty and rickety calèche of the German voiturier, to the neat chariot of the English peer, and the less elegant, but equally imposing, equipage of the Russian prince. Before the doorway is invariably grouped a crowd of loitering guides, servants, and couriers, of all nations and languages, and two or three knots of postilions and coachmen on the look-out for employment.

Couriers, voituriers, guides, and boatmen are apt sometimes to sell their employers to the innkeepers for a gratuity, so that travellers should not always implicitly follow the recommendations of such persons regarding inns; and it is believed that the list of inns, drawn up with much care, and given in this book, has rendered the traveller of late years more independent of their recommendations. The innkeepers were formerly very much at the mercy of this class of persons, who invariably fare sumptuously and certainly not at their own expense; and it not unfrequently happens that the attendance which ought to be bestowed on the master is showered upon his menials. The inns recommended here are from the best information that the editor can procure, but it is obvious that the information must be, with very few exceptions, eight or nine months old at the latest, and that in many instances it must be much older, and in the interval the landlord may have been changed, or may have become more careful from adversity, or careless from prosperity, and the inn may be completely altered. In the following pages the inns which are believed by the editor to be best in any town are mentioned first.

It may be laid down as a general rule, that the wants, tastes, and habits of the English are more carefully and successfully studied in the Swiss inns than even in those of Germany. At most of the large inns, in addition to the 1 o'clock dinner, there is a *late table-d'hôte* dinner at 4 or 5 o'clock; and tea may always be had tolerably good; but, unexpectedly in this land of milk, cream is rarely to be had with it. Several wealthy innkeepers have even gone so far as to build *English chapels* for their guests, as an inducement to English travellers to pass the Sunday with them. Cleanliness is to be met with almost everywhere, until you reach the S. slopes of the Alps and the approach to Italy. In canton Bern, in particular, the inns, even in the small and remote villages, are patterns of neatness, such as even fastidious travellers may be contented with. Still in many instances, even in first-class inns, the houses are deficient in proper drainage and ventilation, and the passages and staircases are unwholesome and offensive from bad smells. Care should be taken to impress on the landlords how disgusting and intolerable is such a nuisance to English ideas.

The practice is now general of the waiter rushing into your room before

you and lighting the *wax* candles without consulting you. If a traveller proposes sitting up some hours, he may not object to this; but it is very different when, at 10 or 11 o'clock, you retire to bed, *to sleep*, and the infliction of a charge for wax candles, under such circumstances, can be looked on only as an imposition.

The following *list of usual Charges* will serve to guide travellers, and may protect them from extortion and imposition on the part of those innkeepers or couriers who may be disposed to take advantage of them.

List of Charges of the first-class Swiss Hotels.

	Fr.	fr.	c.
Tea or coffee, morning or evening, with bread, butter, and honey (eggs and meat charged separately)	1	50	
Ditto in private, each person charged extra	0	50	
Déjeuner à la fourchette (table d'hôte)	2	50	
Table d'hôte at 1 (without vin ordinaire)	3	0	
Ditto ditto, at 5	4	0	
Dinner in private (commandé à l'avance dans la salle à manger)	5	0	
<i>Servants</i> , dinner or supper, 1 fr. 50 c.; breakfast or tea, 1 fr.			
Bougie	1	0	
Demi-bougie	0	50	
Lampe de nuit	0	50	
Bain de pied, chaud ou froid (<i>unreasonable, but usual</i>)	0	50	
Servants (service de l'hôtel), par jour par personne	1	0	
From large families, who make some stay, so much is not expected.			

The charges for *Rooms* vary according to their situation on the lower floors, and the views they command; but the best suite of apartments, in first-rate inns, ought not to exceed 4 to 6 fr. a-day for a sitting-room or salon, and 3 fr. for each bed. The *Salles-à-manger* in the larger Swiss inns are handsome, clean, and airy apartments. Smoking is not allowed in them, and in consequence of this, and of a higher charge being made for meals in private rooms, many more persons take breakfast, tea, and supper than in the German inns, and the society is more select than in France or Germany, and may be enjoyed in comfort, the guests being almost exclusively tourists.

A party of 3 or 4 persons staying a week or more, even in a first-rate hotel, should not pay more than 8 or 9 fr. each, board and lodging, including servants, per diem. At Interlaken the charge for good board and lodging is not more than 6 fr. a-day; and at some of the baths near Bex not more than 4½ fr. a-day for those who remain some weeks. At some of the small inns in remote valleys the charges are absurdly low; but occasionally the landlords in such places charge as high as in first-rate hotels in large towns. Such attempts at imposition may be best resisted by threatening to inform other travellers.

English travellers halting at an *Inn* about mid-day to rest their horses, if there be no table-d'hôte at 12 or 1, should order a déjeuner à la fourchette (gabel frühstück), for which they will be charged 1½ or 2 fr. per head. If they order *dinner*, they will be charged 3 or 4 fr. for the very same food. Similarly, when arriving at an inn in the evening, tea, with côtelettes de mouton, or bifteck aux pommes de terre, will replace dinner satisfactorily

and economically. One fr. a-day is usually given to the servants, and is almost always added in the bill. This includes all the servants except the porter, who expects something extra.

French is almost invariably spoken at the inns, even in the German cantons, except in remote parts, as in the side valleys of the Grisons. Nevertheless, the German language is a very valuable acquisition to the traveller. English is spoken in the large hotels.

Swiss inns have, in general, the reputation of being expensive, and the innkeepers of being extortionate; of late years, however, great improvement has taken place. A recent journey through the greater part of the country has scarcely afforded an instance of either; but, where such cases have occurred, notice has been taken of them in the following pages. At minor and remote inns, manœuvres are sometimes resorted to for the purpose of detaining the guests.

It is often supposed, and perhaps correctly, that two sets of charges are made—one for natives, or Germans, and another for the English; on the principle that the latter have both longer purses and more numerous wants, and are more difficult to serve.

The *average daily expense* of living at the best inns in Switzerland will vary between 8 Fr. fr. and 10 fr. a-day, excluding all charge for conveyances, horses, and guides. Those who consult economy will, instead of going to inferior inns in large towns, avoid them, and sleep in villages whenever it is practicable. The German students, who understand the art of travelling economically, always proceed in a party, and usually send on one of their number a-head, to their intended night-quarters, to make terms with the innkeeper, and do not spend more than 5 or 7 frs. a-day. There is this advantage in travelling with a party, that numbers are more welcomed at an inn and better attended to than a solitary individual; on the other hand, when inns are full, few stand a better chance than many; and travellers with ladies are allotted better rooms than single men. All arrangements for the hire of carriages, horses, or guides, should be concluded over-night: he that waits till the morning will generally find either the conveyances engaged by others, or the price demanded for them increased, and, at all events, his departure delayed.

Among the mountains, the traveller may obtain, in perfection, the small alpine *Trout*, which are of great excellence; sometimes, also, chamois venison, which, by the way, is far inferior to park venison; wild strawberries are very abundant, and, with a copious admixture of delicious cream,—the staple commodity of the Alps,—are by no means to be despised.

Those who enter a Swiss inn, tired, hot, and thirsty, after a long walk or dusty ride, may ask for a bottle of “limonade gazeuse,” under which name they will recognise a drink nearly resembling ginger-beer, but with more acidity, and, when good, very refreshing. It supplies here the place of hock and Seltzer-water on the Rhine.

Swiss wines are generally condemned. Tolerably good wine is made in the Cantons Neuchâtel, Vaud, and Valais; but is not often to be found at inns. French Beaujolais wine is usually the best liquor to be had in all but the best hotels. Some persons like a sweetish Piedmontese wine that tastes like perry (*vino d’Asti*), which is common in Swiss inns.

§ 12.—DIRECTIONS FOR TRAVELLERS, AND REQUISITES FOR A JOURNEY IN SWITZERLAND — MAPS — DANGERS OF ALPINE TRAVELLING — PRECAUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED.

The *best season* for travelling among the Alps is the months of July, August, and September, in which may, perhaps, be included the last half of June. The higher Alpine passes are scarcely clear of snow before the second week of June; and before the middle of October, snow almost invariably falls on the high Alps: and though the weather is often still serene, the nights draw in so fast as to curtail, inconveniently, the day's journey. During the long days of July and August one may get over a great deal of ground. In September the days are not too hot for hard walking, and there seems to be the best chance of fine weather. On an average there is one season in four fine, two tolerable, and one bad. Those who have not seen Switzerland in set fine weather do not know what Switzerland is.

The first expeditions up mountains produce intense thirst, and drinking water does not remedy it, for it is caused by a fever of the palate. Travellers should be cautioned against indulging in cold water or cold milk when heated; the guides and natives accustomed to mountain travelling never drink before resting; exercise afterwards will render the draught harmless.

It is tiresome and unprofitable in the extreme to walk along a high road over a flat and monotonous country, where there is a carriage-road and conveyances are to be had: here it is best to ride; the cost of a conveyance is counterbalanced by the economy of time.

After the middle of June, when the season for travelling in Switzerland begins, little danger is to be feared from *avalanches*, except immediately after snow-storms, which occur among the high Alps even in the height of summer.

In traversing *Swiss lakes*, implicit reliance should be placed on the advice of the boatmen, and no attempt should be made to induce them to launch their boats when they foresee danger. (See Rte. 18.)

In a few spots on the Italian side, and in some spots on the north side of the Alps, especially the valley of the Rhone, there is malaria in marshy places and in the districts about the embouchures of rivers where they empty themselves into lakes, and travellers should avoid sleeping in such districts.

For many years Keller's was the only map of Switzerland, and is still the clearest and most portable *road map* (Zürich edit. best; English and French copies inferior). Since the government surveys have been made, more accurate maps have been published. *Leuthold's* (Zürich), 10 fr., is on the whole the best; it is clear, and its mountains are more accurate than in Keller. For those who are content with less complete and more portable maps there are Leuthold's at 7 fr. and 3 fr. *Gross* (Zürich) has published a good map. *Ziegler* (St. Gall) has published very accurate but not clear maps, at 8 fr. and 2 fr. A traveller who is content to pore minutely over Ziegler's map will find it far the fullest and most trustworthy.

Geological maps by *Studer* and *Escher* at 22 fr. There are spurious and inferior editions of many of these maps published in France or Germany, against which the purchaser must be on his guard.

The Government Map of Switzerland—scale $\frac{1}{100000}$, or 2-3rds of an inch to the mile, published under the direction of General Dufour, and sold by all the principal booksellers, and analogous to the English Ordnance Maps, is by far the best. It is comprised in 25 sheets, all of which have now appeared, each sheet containing about 30 miles square, and costing from 4 to 7 fr. This map contains not only every road and every path of importance, but even every single house and barn. The execution of these maps is admirable: the mountains engraved are absolutely portraits. Travellers intending to diverge from the beaten track, with a view to explore any particular district, are advised to provide themselves with the sheet of the government map in which it is included, and to write for it by post to some good bookseller, such as Dalp, at Berne, if they have not got it. The map of Switzerland attached to this volume is divided into numbered squares, which severally correspond to the sheets of the Government map.

Studer and *Escher*'s geological maps are elaborate works, the result of immense labour. *Studer* has also published an excellent map of the country round Monte Rosa (*Wagner*, Bern), smaller but more correct than *Schlagentweit*'s. *Reilly*'s map of Mont Blanc, London, 1865, is far the best that has been produced.

See also *Introd. to Savoy and Piedmont*.

Requisites for Travelling.—The following hints are principally addressed to those who intend to make *pedestrian* journeys.

To travel *on foot* is the best mode of *seeing* Switzerland; and it saves a world of trouble to have no other baggage than a knapsack; one containing 2 flannel shirts, 6 collars, 6 pocket-handkerchiefs, 2 neckties, 1 nightgown, 4 pair socks, slippers, thin shoes for wear in the house or a short stroll when the others are wet through, alpaca coat, thin waistcoat and trowsers, light hair-brush, clothes-brush, simple dressing and writing materials, veil, spectacles for ice, woollen comforter, gloves, muffetees, with a thin paletot or fine light plaid, strapped on the outside, will not exceed 12 lbs. A waterproof is not of much use to a pedestrian, as it is too hot. A good umbrella is more useful, and will keep off the sun; when not in use it is stuck through the knapsack after the Swiss fashion.

The *boots* ought to be double-soled, provided with hob-nails, such as are worn in shooting in England, and without iron heels, which are dangerous, and liable to slip in walking over rocks; three rows of nails are better, and Swiss nails are better than English, which are often too hard and slippery: the weight of a shoe of this kind is counterbalanced by the effectual protection afforded to the feet against sharp rocks and loose stones, which cause contusions, and are a great source of fatigue and pain; they should be so large as not to pinch any part of the foot. The experienced pedestrian never commences a journey with new boots, but with a pair that have already conformed to the shape of the feet. If the boots come to grief, Swiss bootmakers are capable of satisfying an Englishman's wants. Thick knit worsted socks, double at the heels, or cotton stockings with worsted feet, ought invariably to be worn, and flannel shirts are incomparably the best for all exertion. It is advisable

to travel in tweed trowsers, not in linen, which afford no protection against rain or changes of temperature in mountain regions. The clothes, if woollen, can hardly be too thin or light. In the months when Englishmen travel it is seldom cold, and often extremely hot. No one who has not ascended a mountain or a pass in the sun can form an idea of the intense heat he will be subject to.

Portmanteaus are better in England than anywhere else, but should not be too large. A carpet-bag or knapsack should always be taken, as a portmanteau requires a luggage-mule or a porter, whilst a carpet-bag will go behind the saddle, and the portmanteau may be sent round by the high road.

Knapsacks are of two sorts : mackintosh with stiff sides, and intended to carry a complete equipment, in which case they should be tolerably large ; and mackintosh or oilskin without a frame or stiffening, so as to pack in a portmanteau, but large enough to carry a supply of clothes for a week or two.

A *flask* is sometimes carried ; but spirits during violent exertion, and especially at great heights, are to be avoided : wine diluted plentifully with water is usually preferred ; but many experienced mountaineers find cold tea a better preservative from thirst. Many persons find relief from the intense thirst by keeping a pebble in the mouth. In ascending to great heights dried raisins or prunes are also found advantageous.

A *telescope* is not of much use, as the view is seldom minute. A "*duchesse*" opera glass is far better.

Lee, 440, West Strand, London, bookseller and stationer, furnishes many requisites for travellers, including a very portable writing-case. No pedestrian should travel without a pocket-compass, nor without a leather drinking-cup.

Cards or pieces of parchment, or, better still, adhesive labels, for writing directions for the baggage (the managers of public conveyances abroad often *insist* upon each package being addressed, before they will take charge of it) ; and one or two leather straps, to keep together books, coats, shawls, &c., or small parcels, will be found very useful.

The *alpenstock* is an almost indispensable companion upon mountain journeys, and may be procured everywhere in Switzerland for about a franc. It is a stout pole, $5\frac{1}{2}$ or 6 ft. long, with an iron spike at one end. The pedestrian who knows how to use it appreciates its value as a staff and leaping-pole, but chiefly as a support in *descending* the mountains ; it then becomes, as it were, a third leg. It enables one to transfer a part of the weight of the body from the legs to the arms, which is a great relief in descending long and steep hills. By the aid of it also travellers in the high Alps are enabled to slide down steep slopes of snow with great ease after some practice, checking the velocity of their course, when it becomes too great, by leaning back, and driving the point deeper. In crossing glaciers, it is indispensable, to feel the strength of the ice, and ascertain whether it be free from crevasses and able to bear the weight. The alpenstock is usually of fir, but the only *trustworthy* ones are of ash, and sufficiently strong to bear the weight of a man seated on the middle while the ends rest on 2 supports. The common alpenstocks are not to be trusted on high excursions ; it is safer to order an ash pole as high as the traveller's chin, and about 4 inches in circumference, with a steel spike very solidly attached to the lower end. The chamois-horn often appended to the alpenstocks of

the shops is absurd and inconvenient, if not dangerous. (See below for *ice-axe*.)

Dangers of Alpine travelling and precautions to be adopted.—Within the last few years the desire to undertake difficult and adventurous expeditions in the high Alps has become common amongst our countrymen. By many hardy and dangerous exploits they have proved their aptness for this new description of sport, but several fatal accidents, and a still larger number of hairbreadth and unexpected escapes, have shown the necessity for imposing some prudential restraint, or at least some increased caution, upon inexperienced travellers who are liable to be led into danger by the spirit of imitation. Mountaineers who well understand their own pursuit, who have ascertained by continued practice the limits of their own strength and endurance, who know what the dangers of the high Alps are, and how these may best be avoided, do not require, and would not accept advice. Those who, with little or no knowledge and experience, wish to engage in a pursuit wherein they may at any moment risk their own lives or those of their companions, may benefit by the advice of their veteran predecessors, provided they will remember that no advice can dispense with the necessity for practical training, and some familiarity with the peculiar phenomena of the ice-region of the high Alps. The following paragraphs are condensed from the 18th chapter of 'Peaks, Passes, and Glaciers,' by Members of the Alpine Club.

The dangers of Alpine expeditions may be divided into two classes—the real and the imaginary. Where a ridge or slope of rock or ice is such that it could be traversed without difficulty if it lay but a few feet above the level of a garden, the substitution on either side of a precipice some thousands of feet in depth, or of a glacier crevasse, makes no real difference in the work to be done, though it may have a formidable effect on the traveller's imagination. Those who cannot remove this source of danger by accustoming themselves to look unmoved down vertical precipices, and, in cases of real difficulty, to fix their attention exclusively on the ledge or jutting crag to which they must cling with foot or hand, should avoid expeditions where a moment's nervousness may endanger their own lives or those of others.

The real dangers of the high Alps may, under ordinary circumstances, be reduced to three. First, the yielding of the snow bridges that cover glacier crevasses; second, the risk of slipping upon steep slopes of hard ice; third, the fall of ice or rocks from above.

From the first and most frequent source of danger, absolute security is obtained by a precaution generally known, but often neglected. In the *higher* region of the glaciers crevasses, even of considerable width, are often completely bridged over by a covering of snow, so that no indication of their existence is seen on the surface of the glacier. The snow bridges often yield under the weight of a man's footsteps; in such a case an active man whose attention is on the alert may sometimes extricate himself at once, but it more commonly happens that he falls into the chasm beneath, in which case his chance of life is faint indeed. But if several travellers are tied together with a stout rope, as it is in the highest degree improbable that a majority of them should fall at the same moment into the same crevasse, no appreciable danger from this cause need be incurred. Even two travellers tied together may with proper attention avoid this risk, but

greater security is obtained when they are three or more in number. It is mainly because he cannot be protected from this danger that a man who goes alone over the higher regions of the great glaciers incurs a risk that must be called unjustifiable.

For surmounting steep ice slopes by cutting the necessary steps the *axe* is the proper instrument, but there is some difference of opinion as to the best form to be given to it. Considerable practice is required to use this instrument with effect, and few amateurs acquire much proficiency. In considerable expeditions it is well to carry a second axe; it will sometimes save time, and supply a serious deficiency if the first should be lost or broken. A committee of the Alpine Club, in 1864, recommended 3 designs for an ice-axe. These are to be procured complete of Mr. Leaver, metal-worker, Maidenhead, at the prices of 18s., 21s., and 22s. respectively.

Crampons for the feet are never used by English mountaineers, nor by the best guides, who trust entirely to their nailed boots and ice-axes. Persons who have not sufficient nails to their boots, may supplement them, on occasion, by screws of hard steel with square four-pointed heads, arranged in a convenient way for being driven into the soles and heels. They are sold in London by Lund, in Fleet-street, and have been found very useful.

In spite of these precautions a traveller may slip on an ice slope where, if unchecked, a fall would lead to certain destruction. Against this danger the rope is usually an effectual preservative. Cases, however, occur where the footing is so precarious that a party cannot be tied together, as, if one were to slip, he would inevitably drag all his companions along with him to destruction. It is for those concerned to consider whether in such instances the object in view is such as to justify the inevitable peril of the ascent.

The danger arising from ice and fragments of rock falling across the track may, to a great extent, be avoided by a judicious choice of route. Experienced mountaineers learn to recognize the positions where ice detached from a higher level descends over a precipice or steep slope of rock. They either avoid such spots altogether or are careful to pass them early in the morning, before the sun has loosened the impending masses, or late in the day, after his rays have been withdrawn.

The ordinary risks of Alpine adventure are seriously increased during bad weather, and new dangers may then assail the traveller. Masses of rock are then detached from their previously firm resting-places, and come thundering down across the track. Falling snow obscures the view and effaces the footprints, so that it soon becomes equally difficult to advance and to retreat. Worst of all, when snow is accompanied by violent gusts of wind, the *tourmente*, or snow whirlwind, bewilders the traveller, half-blinded by the fine dust-like snow of the higher regions, and benumbs his limbs with its biting breath, if he be unable to keep up rapid exercise. A reasonable man will avoid bad weather in the high Alps whenever it can be foreseen, or resort to an immediate retreat when unexpectedly attacked by it. Attention to the bearings of the compass and to landmarks when the appearance of the weather becomes doubtful will generally enable a party to retrace their steps. Few summer travellers have an idea of the possible terrors of the Alps.

The best general rule for unpractised travellers wishing to attempt a difficult excursion is to take two good guides for each traveller, to trust to

their advice about the weather, to be careful to see before starting that they are supplied with a sufficiency of good sound rope, and, when the time comes for using it, to insist that it shall be fastened round the waist of each member of the party, so that both his arms shall be free for use in case of an emergency. To a neglect of this last precaution must doubtless be attributed the loss of three English travellers on the Col du Géant in 1860.

In all excursions on the higher glaciers spectacles of dark glass should be used to protect the eyes from the glare of the snow. Serious cases of inflammation have arisen from the neglect of this precaution. A gauze veil serves to protect the traveller in some degree from the effects of the intense radiance of the sun, and the glare of its reflexion from the snow. Most travellers in the upper regions lose the skin from every exposed part of the face and neck. Glycerine or cold cream is a preservative, or at least serves to give relief from this inconvenient concomitant of the pleasures of snow-travelling. Some persons recommend collodion, especially for the lips, which are apt to split in a painful way.

Precautions for Health.—Nothing is more conducive to health than the combination of exercise, pure air, and wholesome enjoyment which is found by a pedestrian in the Alps. A few simple rules should, however, be observed :—

If not already in training, be content to make very short journeys at first, and never allow your feet to blister. After a fortnight's practice you may undertake whatever you please. Any youth, not of a weakly frame, can readily put himself into sufficient "training" to undertake first-class excursions; but, without some training, the strongest-limbed athlete would break down.

Immediately on your arrival, after a day's walk, wash extensively with soap and hot water and change your linen. If at all fatigued, or if the circulation be hurried, lie down after washing and dressing, and try to sleep for a few minutes before dinner. When you have only a knapsack you should keep one set of underclothing for the evening exclusively.

After a moderate walk ordinary diet with wine and beer is unobjectionable; but when fatigued by unusual exertion there is nothing so useful as tea. After it you will sleep soundly when otherwise you would have been disturbed and feverish. A tumbler of lemon-juice, water, and sugar, if sipped (not gulped down), materially allays feverishness. Lemons can always be got at the inns.

§ 13. OBJECTS MOST DESERVING OF NOTICE IN SWITZERLAND—THE COUNTRY AND PEOPLE—BATHS.

In order to travel with advantage in a country previously unknown, something more seems necessary than a mere detail of certain lines of road, and an enumeration of towns, villages, mountains, &c. The following section has been prepared with a view to furnish such preliminary information as may enable the tourist to turn his time to the best account; to decide where to dwell, and where to pass quickly. The task is difficult: let this serve as an excuse for its imperfect execution.

Switzerland owes the sublimity and diversified beauty of its scenery, which it possesses in a greater degree perhaps than any other country of the globe, to the presence of the Alps—the loftiest mountains of Europe, the dorsal ridge or backbone, as it were, of the Continent. These run through the land, and occupy, with their main trunk, or minor spurs and offsets, nearly its whole surface. They attain the greatest height along the S. and E. frontier-line of Switzerland, but as they extend N., subsiding and gradually opening out to allow a passage to the Rhine and the Rhone, and their tributaries, they are met by the minor chain of the *Jura*, which forms the N.W. boundary of Switzerland. It is from the apex of this advanced guard, as it were, of the Alps, or from one of the intermediate outlying hills, that the traveller, on entering the country, obtains the first view of the great central chain. From the brow of the hill, at the further extremity of a landscape composed of undulating country—woods, hills, villages, lakes, and silvery, winding rivers—sufficient of itself to rivet the attention, he will discover what, if he has not before enjoyed the glorious spectacle of a snowy mountain, he will probably take for a border of fleecy cloud floating along the horizon. The eye, unaccustomed to objects of such magnitude, fails at first to convey to the mind the notion, that these clearly defined white masses are mountains 60 or 70 m. off. Distance and the intervening atmosphere have little effect in diminishing the intense white of the snow; it glitters pure and unsullied as if it had just fallen close at hand.

There are many points of view whence the semicircular array of Alpine peaks, presented at once to the eye, extends for more than 120 m., from the Mont Blanc to the Titlis, and comprises between 200 and 300 distinct summits, capped with snow, or bristling with bare rocks, having their interstices filled with perpetual glaciers.

It was such a prospect that inspired those remarkable lines of Byron:—

“Above me are the Alps,
The palaces of Nature, whose vast walls
Have pinnaced in clouds their snowy scalps,
And throned Eternity in icy halls
Of cold sublimity, where forms and falls
The Avalanche—the thunderbolt of snow!
All that expands the spirit, yet appals,
Gather around the summits, as to show
How earth may soar to heaven, yet leave vain man below.”

List of Heights commanding distant Alpine panoramas.

<i>Mountains</i>	<i>near to</i>	<i>Mountains</i>	<i>near to</i>
Albis	Zürich.	Hauenstein	Olten.
Becca di Nona	Aosta.	Monterone	Baveno.
Berne	Berne.	Niesen	Thun.
Chamont	Neuchâtel.	Pilatus	Lucerne.
Dôle	Geneva.	Rigi	Lucerne.
Faulhorn	Grindenwald.	Salvadore	Lugano.
Generoso	Lake of Como.	Weissenstein	Soleure.

Of these the Rigi is probably the finest, as it is certainly one of the most accessible; some give the preference to the Becca di Nona, or the Faulhorn, from their proximity to the High Alps rising close at hand. The passion for climbing mountains, so ardent in a young traveller, often cools; and many who have surmounted the Rigi, the Faulhorn or Rothhorn, and the Dôle, consider any further ascents a waste of time and labour. Others, however, after having overcome the fatigue of the first 10 or 12 days, begin to feel a desire to ascend more and more difficult heights and passes; and this desire not unfrequently becomes quite a passion.

For a *near view* of Alpine scenery, amidst the recesses of the mountains, the spots which afford a concentration of the most grand and sublime objects are the valleys of the Bernese Oberland, those which descend from Monte Rosa, especially the valleys of Zermatt and Macugnaga, and those around the base of Mont Blanc, including, of course, Chamouni. It is in these three districts that the combination of fine forms and great elevation in the mountains—of vast extent of glaciers and snow-fields, with the accompaniments of the roar of the avalanche and the rush of the falling torrent—are most remarkable. Here, in particular, the glaciers, the most characteristic feature of this country, are seen to greatest advantage, not only those fantastically fractured masses of iceberg which descend into the low grounds, but those vast fields of ice called Mers de Glace. To the neighbourhoods of Mont Blanc and Monte Rosa must be given the preference in point of sublimity; and the traveller will, for this reason, do well in reserving them for the termination of his tour, and the crowning acts of his journey.

Amongst the remarkable points from whence a near view of grand Alpine scenery may be obtained without danger or serious difficulty, the following may be selected:—

Mountains accessible to moderate climbers, commanding near views.

<i>Mountains</i>	<i>near to</i>	<i>Mountains</i>	<i>near to</i>
Æggischhorn	Viesch.	†Mittelhorn	Zermatt.
Arpietta Alp	Einfisch Thal.	Piz Languard	Pontresina.
Bella Tola	St. Luc.	Pierre à voir	Martigny.
Breven	Chamouni.	†Schilthorn	Mürren.
Cramont	Courmayeur.	†Sentis	Appenzell.
Dreizehntenhorn	Turtman Thal.	Sidelhorn	Grimsel.
Gorner Grat	Zermatt.	†Titlis	Engstlen.
†Grauhaupt	Gressonay.	Torrenthorn	Leukerbad.

Those marked with a † are the more difficult.

Of accessible *Glaciers* the most remarkable are those of Chamouni and of Grindelwald. That of Rosenlauri is celebrated for its extreme purity, and the dark blue colour of its chasms.

An interesting account of excursions and ascents in some of the wildest

and grandest parts of the Bernese and Valais Alps is given by Gottlieb Studer in a small work entitled 'Topographische Mittheilungen aus dem Alpengebirge.' The first part, accompanied by six panoramic sketches, was published by Huber (Bern and St. Gall) in 1843. Desor's 'Excursions et Séjours dans les Glaciers,' &c., and the sequel, 'Nouvelles Excursions et Séjours,' &c., Neuchâtel, 1844 and 1845, contain also some interesting excursions, but the descriptions are not free from occasional inaccuracy and exaggeration. The *Flore Vallaisanne* of Count d'Angreville (Geneva) is an excellent manual for the *botanist* among the Alps of the great chains.

A number of works connected with Alpine travel and adventure have issued from the English press. Amongst so many, possessing various degrees of merit, and addressed to the wants and tastes of different classes of readers, a few may be particularly noticed. 'The Italian Valleys of the Pennine Alps,' by the Rev. S. W. King, and 'A Lady's Tour round Monte Rosa,' are works addressed to tourists of ordinary strength and capacity; while 'Peaks, Passes, and Glaciers,' by Members of the Alpine Club; the numbers of the 'Alpine Journal;' 'Wanderings among the High Alps,' by Alfred Wills; and 'Summer Months among the Alps,' by T. W. Hinchliff, are designed for the more hardy and adventurous explorers of the Alps. For solid information, especially on matters connected with physical science, the reader is referred to the standard works of Saussure, Professor Forbes, and Professor Tyndall, already mentioned in the preface.

Perhaps the best *delineations of Swiss scenery, glaciers, passes, travelling incidents, &c.*, are to be found in the water-colour pictures of Mr. George Barnard. They combine in a high degree picturesqueness with truth, having been carefully drawn on the spot. They are far superior to the views which are to be found in the Swiss print-shops.

The earlier attempts at applying photography to represent the glaciers and snow regions of the Alps were not successful, but of late admirable likenesses have been obtained, particularly by Bisson of Paris. Some fine specimens have been exhibited in London and Paris, and may now be purchased in both cities.

Lakes.—Madame de Staël has somewhere remarked, on the proximity of lakes to mountains, that Nature seems to have placed them in the midst of her grandest scenes, at the foot of the Alps, in order to serve as mirrors to them, and to multiply their enchanting forms. Lakes are very numerous in Switzerland, and they certainly add a principal charm to its scenery. It is difficult to classify them according to their respective merits, as almost every one has some peculiarity which characterises it and renders it worthy of attention. The most remarkable are, the Lake of Lucerne, which exhibits in perfection savage grandeur and sublimity; Wallenstadt, Thun, and Brienz, all thoroughly Swiss; the Lake of Geneva, or Lac Léman, distinguished for its great extent, and for the diversified character it presents, being at one end rugged and sublime, at the other soft and smiling: it occupies an intermediate rank between the Swiss and Italian Lakes. These last, that is to say, Maggiore, Lugano, and Como, may be included in the tour of Switzerland, either from portions of them being actually situated within its territory, or from their vicinity to it. Their character is rather smiling than frowning; they are blessed with a southern

climate, in addition to their own attractions ; their thickets are groves of orange, olive, myrtle, and pomegranate ; and their habitations are villas and palaces. Along with the lakes named above must be mentioned the little Lake of Orta, which, though situated in Piedmont, lies so close to the Simplon, and possesses such high claims to notice, that no traveller, approaching that corner of Switzerland to which it is a neighbour, should omit to visit it.

The attempt to fix an order of precedence for the *Swiss Waterfalls* is not likely to meet with general approval, because much of the interest connected with them depends on the seasons and the weather, as well as on the taste and temper of the spectator. A fine waterfall is, indeed, a magnificent spectacle ; but it will be appreciated, not merely by its own merits, but, to use a mercantile phrase, according to the abundance of the supply. Now, in Switzerland, waterfalls are as numerous as blackberries. The traveller, after a week or fortnight's journey, is *pestered* by them, and will hardly turn his head aside to look at a fall which, if it were in Great Britain, would make the fortune of an English watering-place, and attract visitors half-way across our island to behold it. The fact seems to be that there is a certain monotony and similarity in all falls of water ; and after the curiosity has once been satiated by the sight of three or four, it is tiresome to go out of one's way to visit another, unless it be much finer, and have a distinctive character from any seen before. Thus, then, there is utility even in an attempt to classify these natural objects.

1. The Fall of the Rhine, at Schaffhausen, deserves the first rank, from the volume of water ; but it is rather a cataract than a cascade—it wants height.

2. Fall of the Aar, at Handek, combines a graceful shoot with great elevation ; an abounding river, and a grand situation. It may be said to attain almost to perfection—(Terni being a perfect waterfall).

3. Fall of the Tosa, in the Val Formazza : remarkable less for its form than for the vast volume of water, but in this respect very fine indeed, and well worth a visit.

4. The Staubbach, or Dust Fall : a thread or scarf of water, so thin that it is dispersed into spray before it reaches the ground ; beautiful, however, from its height and graceful wavings.

5. Schmadribach.

6. The Giesbach, on the lake of Brienz.

7. The Fall of the Sallenche, near Martigny.

8. Reichenbach Falls, near Meyringen.

9. The Fall of Pianazzo, or of the Medessimo, on the Splügen.

10. Turtman Fall, near the Simplon road.

11. Cascade du Dard, Chamouni.

12. Fall of the Sand Bach above the lower Sand Alp, Canton of Glarus. This fall would rank high in the list if it were easier to see it from a favourable point of view.

Other falls, too numerous to mention, are not placed (to use the language of the race-course) ; though, in any other country but Switzerland or Norway, they would deserve especial notice.

The design of this enumeration is to spare the traveller a long walk, or

a day's journey, to see a fall, probably inferior to others which he has already seen.

The principal and most interesting of the *Swiss Alpine Carriage Passes* (see § 14) are the Simplon, the St. Gothard, the Splügen, the Bernardino, and the Bernina, regarding at once their scenery, and the magnificent and skilfully constructed carriage-roads which have been made over them. Of passes not traversed by carriage-roads, keeping below the ice, and practicable for mules, the most striking are those of the Bonhomme, La Seigne, Tête Noire, and Col de Balme, leading to Chamouni; the Grimsel and Gries, branching off at the head of the valley of the Rhône; the Scheideck and Wengern Alp, in the Bernese Oberland; the Gemmi, one of the most singular of all the passes; and the Great St. Bernard, chiefly visited on account of its celebrated Hospice. Of passes crossing the ice, the most remarkable are the Strahleck from the Grimsel, Tschingel from Lauterbrunnen, Monte Moro and St. Théodule E. and W. of Monte Rosa, Col de Collon from Sion to Aosta, and the Col du Géant over the shoulder of Mont Blanc.

Alpine Gorges.—Especially deserving of notice are some of the avenues leading up to these passes; in many instances mere cracks or fissures, cleaving the mountains to the depth of several thousand feet.

None of these defiles at all approach the *Ravine of the Via Mala*, one of the most sublime and terrific scenes anywhere among the Alps. The gorge of the Schöllenen, on the St. Gothard; that of Gondo, on the Simplon; and that extraordinary glen, in whose depths the *Baths of Pfeffers* are sunk—one of the most wonderful scenes in Switzerland—also deserve mention; as also the *valley of Leuk*.

The most beautiful *Swiss Valleys* are those of Hasli, near Meyringen; the Simmenthal; the Vale of Sarnen; the Kanderthal; the Vallée de Gruyères, and Ormonds, or Pays d'en Haut Romand—all distinguished for their quiet pastoral character, and the softness and luxuriance of their verdure—"The rock-embosomed lawns, and snow-fed streams," spoken of by Shelley. And here it may be remarked that the traveller in Switzerland must not suppose that beauty of scenery is confined to the High Alps: the intermediate undulating country between the Alps and Jura, which, though still greatly elevated above the sea, may be called the Lowlands, in reference to the Highlands of Switzerland, abounds in peculiar and unobtrusive beauties—hills tufted with woods, among which picturesque masses of bare rock project at intervals, slopes-bursting with rills, and meadows which, by the aid of copious irrigation, yield three crops of grass a-year, presenting at all seasons a carpet of the liveliest verdure, and of a texture like velvet, equal to that of the best kept English lawns;—such are the beauties of these lowland scenes. The frequent hedge-rows, the gardens before the cottages, and the neatness of the dwellings—the irregular, winding roads, free from the straight monotony and everlasting avenues of France and Germany—remind one frequently of England. There are, besides, among the Jura, many scenes of great grandeur; such especially is presented by the Val Montiers, or Münster Thal, between Basle and Bienne; the pass of Klus, at the foot of the Ober-Hauenstein; and the Lac de Joux.

Glacier Passes.—Those that are the grandest and yet feasible to others besides first-rate mountaineers, and are also very useful passes, are—

Col de Collon.	Moro.	Théodule.	Weiss Thor.
Col de Géant.	Strahleck.	Tschingel.	

(The Moro, though superlatively grand, is not strictly a glacier pass, and is very easy. The Théodule is the next easiest. The Strahleck is the most difficult.)

Halting-places.—Good inns, close to fine scenery and pleasant walks, suitable for a stay of some days.

AA are the very best.

B are good mountain-quarters.

Æggischhorn	A	Kandersteg	B
Bel Alp	A	Luc, St.	B
Bex (Monchâlet)	A	Lugano	AA
Byron Hotel (L. Geneva)	AA	Möritz, St.	A
Chamouni	AA	Mürren	A A
Champéry	A	Macugnaga	A
Comballas	A	Ouchy	AA
Como Lake (several)	AA	Pontresina	B
Courmayeur	A	Présa	B
Diablerets	A	Ragatz	A
Engelberg	A	Reichenbach	A A
Engstlen	B	Rhone Glacier Inn	A
Evolena	B	Rigi Kaltbad	AA
Fobello	B	„ Scheideck	A
Geneva Lake, head of, several pen- sions	A	Rosenlaui	A A
Gervais, St.	A	Saas	B
Giesbach	A AA	Seelisberg	A
Glion (L. Geneva)	A	Stachelberg	A
Gressonay	A	Stresa (L. Maggiore)	AA
Grindelwald	A AA	Weissbad	B
		Zermatt	A

Switzerland covers 14,000 square miles, and in 1850 there were 2,420,000 Inhab.; 1,420,000 Prot., 970,000 Cath.: 1,670,000 speak German, 474,000 French, 176,000 Italian dialects.

Population—Census of 1860:—2,511,494 souls. Males, 1,236,363; females, 1,274,131. By the emigration of males they are only as 1000 to 1111 females in the Grisons, and to 1269 in the Tessin.

The collective population of the 28 diminutive capitals of the cantons is only 281,943 souls; 137,120 males and 146,823 females.

There are 1,023,430 Catholics, 1,476,982 Protestants, and 4216 Jews; showing an increase of 50 per cent. of the last-mentioned religion.

0·695, or 367,065 families, speak German; 0·234, or 123,438 families, speak French; 0·054, or 28,697 families, speak Italian; lastly, 0·017, or 8905 families, belong to the Romansch language spoken in a part of the Grisons.

Foreigners in 1850, 60,000 or $\frac{1}{40}$; in 1860, 114,961, or $\frac{46}{1000}$.

Showing how much land is necessary for the support of the Alpine population in the higher valleys.

The smiling valley of Muotta has only 1664 inhabitants, although it is 18 miles long and fertile. Urseren supports only 1326. In the Vallais, the fine valley of Anniviers, although studded with numerous villages and hamlets, has only 1888 inhabitants. The Visperthal with Saas, 4859. Entremont and Ferret together, 5747. Herens, also in Vallais, 4755. The Val d'Illiers, 2520.

Illegitimate children are on the increase. In the canton of Vaud, from the year 1803 to 1820, they were 2·75 per cent. of the population; from 1851 to 1860, 5·36 per cent. In the canton of Zürich, 5 per cent.; in Thurgovia, 4·51 per cent.; in Glarus, 1·70 per cent.; in Prussia, 7·60 per cent.; in France, 7·29 per cent.; in Sweden, 9·33 per cent.; in Saxony, 14·34 per cent.; in Bavaria, 20·73 per cent.

The only source of income of the Federal Government is the produce of the custom-house duties. It was in 1853, 5,884,000 frs.; in 1856, 6,160,000 frs.; in 1857, 6,494,000 frs.; in 1858, 6,874,000 frs.; in 1859, 7,476,000 frs.; in 1860, 7,765,000 frs.; in 1861, 8,137,000 frs.

With regard to the natural beauties of Switzerland, there can be but one sentiment of admiration. On the subject of the *moral condition of the Swiss*, and of their character as a nation, there is much variety of opinion. The Swiss with whom the traveller comes into contact, especially the German portion of them, are often sullen, obstinate, and disagreeable, and he is annoyed by the constant mendicancy of the women and children, even in remote districts, and on the part of those who are not, apparently, worse off than their neighbours. This disposes the traveller to dislike and to take very little interest in the people amongst whom he is travelling; he has also heard much of their timeserving, their love of money, and their readiness to fight for any paymaster in former times, and he at once dismisses them from his thoughts, and regards them pretty much as Childe Harold regarded the Portuguese. It may be doubted, however, whether an ordinary traveller is competent to form an opinion of the whole nation from those classes with which he is thrown into contact, and which have been taught to make him their prey. And, whatever may be the case as to the Swiss individually, yet, looked at as a nation, they are in many respects deserving of admiration, as being the only nation in continental Europe where practical liberty has been continually enjoyed since the peace in 1815. Mr. Grote, the historian of Greece, in the preface to his admirable Letters on Switzerland says, "The inhabitants of the twenty-two cantons are interesting on every ground to the general intelligent public of Europe. But to one whose studies lie in the contemplation and interpretation of historical phenomena they are especially instructive; partly from the many specialities and differences of race, language, religion, civilization, wealth, habits, &c., which distinguish one part of the population from another, comprising between the Rhine and the Alps a miniature of all Europe, and exhibiting the fifteenth century in immediate juxta-position with the nineteenth; partly from the free and unrepressed action of the people, which brings out such distinctive attributes in full relief and contrast. To myself in particular they present an additional ground of interest from a certain political analogy (nowhere else to be found in Europe) with those who prominently occupy my thoughts, and on the history of whom I am engaged—the ancient Greeks."

We are so accustomed to look upon Switzerland as "the land of liberty," that the generality of travellers will take the thing for granted; and it is only after diving to a certain depth in Swiss annals, that the question arises, what was the nature of this freedom, and how far was it calculated to foster nobility of sentiment and public spirit among the people? Was the abolition of the Austrian dominion succeeded by a more equitable government, extending to all the same privileges, and dividing among all alike the public burden? Was political equality accompanied by religious tolerance and harmony? Did the democratic principle produce fruit in the disinterestedness and patriotism of the children of the land? To all these inquiries there remains but one answer—a negative. The cow-herds of Uri, Schwytz, and Unterwalden, and the still more democratic communities of the Grisons, who had so nobly, and with so much moderation, emancipated themselves from a foreign yoke, in process of time became themselves the rulers of subject states, and, so far from extending to them the liberty they had so dearly purchased, and which they so highly valued, they kept their subjects in the most abject state of villenage; so that, down to the end of the last century, the vassals of no despotic monarch in Europe exhibited a picture of equal political debasement. The effects of this tyrannical rule were equally injurious to the governors and the governed, and the marks of it may be traced in many parts of Switzerland, even down to the present day, in the degraded condition of the people, morally as well as physically. It will be discovered from Swiss history that ambition, and a thirst for territorial rule, are inherent in republics as well as in monarchies, as we may learn from the encroachments and aggrandizing spirit of canton Bern. She retained, as tributary to her, for two centuries and a half, the district called Pays de Vaud, deriving from it an annual revenue of 1,200,000 francs, and yet denying to the inhabitants all share of political rights. Geneva, a weaker state, after throwing off the yoke of the Dukes of Savoy, with difficulty escaped the wiles of the Bernese government, which would have plunged her into a slavery not more tolerable than that from which she had just escaped.

Religious dissensions were a source of a long series of troubles to the Confederation, dividing it into two opposite parties, which not only were arrayed against each other in the field of battle, but also interfered with the internal peace of the individual cantons. Although by the laws the two parties in religion were allowed equal freedom of worship, the enjoyment of this privilege was embittered to either party, in the state where the other faith was predominant: it was, in fact, but a nominal tolerance.

Down to the times of the French revolution, the common people of Switzerland, except in one or two of the cantons, had no more share in the constitutional privileges, which all Swiss were supposed to possess as their birthright, than the subjects of the despotic monarchies of Austria or Prussia. The government was vested in the hands of aristocratic oligarchies, as exclusive, and as proud of birth, blood, and descent, as the most ancient nobility in Europe. The burgher patricians of the great towns managed, by gradual encroachments, to deprive the lower orders of the exercise of their rights, and gradually monopolised all places and offices for themselves and their children; and even in some of the small cantons, where the constitution had been for ages in theory a pure de-

mocracy, every male above the age of 20 having a vote, the result not unfrequently was, that the same persons, and their children after them, were always elected to the offices of trust and power.

The twenty-two cantons of which Switzerland is now composed were first united in 1814, when the old aristocracies were generally restored. Each canton had a vote in the annual diet, and whilst the diet was not sitting, by a most extraordinary arrangement, Berne, Lucerne, and Zürich, were alternately the Vorort, or presiding canton, and had the supreme government. In 1830 many of the cantons made great changes in their government, and the power of the old aristocracies was much reduced; the larger cantons becoming somewhat democratic in tendency, after the French model, and wishing to introduce great changes. The old mountain-cantons, however, Lucerne, Fribourg, Valais, Schwyz, Uri, Zug, and Unterwalden, were perfectly contented with their forms of government. From their geographical position it was impossible for them ever to become rich or commercial, and they probably perceived that the changes would do them no good, and would no doubt increase their taxation, and they wished to be let alone—a feeling in which most Englishmen will sympathise. It must, however, be added that these cantons are all catholic, and entirely subjected to their priests; generally very poor, and with a tendency to oppress their protestant fellow-citizens. In pursuance of their views they, in 1841, formed a league, or Sonderbund, to oppose by force, if necessary, the suppression of certain convents, and to maintain the jesuits. It was clear that whether their objects were right or wrong such a combination could not be permitted, and it was accordingly put down in 1847 by force, not without bloodshed. Since that time nearly all the cantons who had not altered their constitutions have done so, and a central government has been established at Berne, which is the seat of the Diet; at present in the majority of the cantons, particularly in the large protestant cantons, democratic principles, somewhat after the French model, have prevailed; and in the Diet the democratic, or radical party as it is called, has had the majority. Whatever may be thought of their principles, and although there are to be found amongst them many men full of the wild designs and vague aspirations common on the Continent, it must be admitted that hitherto they have behaved with moderation, and have effected many excellent changes, though with a great increase of taxation. The electric telegraph has been established, railways introduced; the coinage instead of being the worst has been made the best in Europe; diligences and posting established; tolls on roads abolished; custom-house duties imposed on bulky articles only, so that passengers' luggage is not examined; and a large sum is devoted every year to the making and maintaining the roads. These are not small improvements in seven or eight years, and it does not appear that any oppression has been exercised, unless the suppression of some convents, and the expulsion of the jesuits, can be looked upon in that view. Up to the present time the Diet has acted with great prudence; internally, where it has to contend with the jealousies of the cantons and the intolerance of the two religions—the discontent of the old cantons and the violence of the extreme democrats; and externally, where it has a difficult task between the great governments of France and Austria. The history of Switzerland up to 1840 is very well related in the History of Switzerland published by the Useful Know-

ledge Society; and a voluminous history (French and German) up to 1842 has been compiled by Müller. From that time, with the exception of Mr. Grote's Letters, which only relate to four or five years, there seems to be no compilation giving the general history of the country.

The traveller at all events should be slow to find fault with the Swiss government. There are no passports, no custom-houses, no tolls, no gendarmes; none of those ridiculous restrictions to prevent people from incurring danger which are so annoying in France and Germany; and no interference whatever with individual absolute freedom (with the exception of some vexatious regulations as to guides lately introduced), whilst there are nearly everywhere good inns, good roads, and tolerable means of locomotion.

The *Towns* of Switzerland exhibit many interesting marks of antiquity: their buildings are frequently found unchanged since a very early period; and in Lucerne, Freyburg, Basle, Bellinzona, and in several other instances, the feudal fortifications, with battlements and watch-towers, remain perfectly preserved. One characteristic and very pleasant feature are the *Fountains*, the never-failing ornament of every Swiss town and village. They usually consist of a Gothic ornamented pillar, surmounted by the figure of a man, usually some hero of Swiss history, either Tell, the dauntless crossbowman, or Winkelried, with his "sheaf of spears." Sometimes the figures of animals are substituted for the human form.

The Swiss, as compared with other nations on the Continent, have a respect for antiquity which we in England should consider decidedly an aristocratic feeling. The old heroes of the country are held in great veneration, and there is no feeling of hatred for the former noble families. Each canton also puts up its coat-of-arms in every place where heraldic display would be at all admissible.

A singular custom, connected with education, prevails in some parts of Switzerland, which deserves notice here, from the influence which it exercises over society. In many of the large towns, children of the same age and sex are associated together by their parents in little knots and clubs, called *Sociétés de Dimanche*. The parents seek out for their children an eligible set of companions when they are still quite young. The parties so formed amount to twelve or fifteen in number, and the variation of age between them is not more than two or three years. All the members meet in turn on Sunday evenings, at the houses of their parents, while children, to play together and partake of tea, cakes, and sweetmeats, attended by their *bonnes* or nurses; when grown up, to pass the evening in other occupations and amusements suited to their age. At these meetings not even brothers or sisters are present, except they are members of the society. From thus being constantly thrown together on all occasions, a strict friendship grows up among the members of each brotherhood or sisterhood, which generally lasts through life, even after the parties are settled and dispersed about the world. The females, even when grown up, distinguish their companions by such endearing terms as "ma mignonne," "mon cœur," "mon ange," &c. This practice renders Swiss society very exclusive, and few strangers, however well introduced, penetrate below the surface. When a young woman marries, her husband

is admitted into the society to which she belongs, and thus the wife determines the caste of the husband.

Costumes distinguishing the people of each canton were nearly universal before 1830. They are now rapidly disappearing, but may still be seen in the Bernese Oberland, and the women in many cantons have peculiar head-dresses. The men never wear a costume, and are usually attired in brown undyed homespun cloth.

Ranz de Vaches.—It is not uncommon to find the *Ranz de Vaches* spoken of, by persons unacquainted with Switzerland and the Alps, as a single air, whereas they are a class of melodies prevailing among and peculiar to the Alpine valleys. Almost every valley has an air of its own, but the original air is said to be that of Appenzell. Their effect in producing home-sickness in the heart of the Swiss mountaineer, when heard in a distant land, and the prohibition of this music in the Swiss regiments in the service of France, on account of the number of desertions occasioned by it, are stories often repeated, and probably founded on fact.

These national melodies are particularly wild in their character, yet full of melody; the choruses consist of a few remarkable shrill notes, uttered with a peculiar falsetto intonation in the throat. They originate in the practice of the shepherds on the Alps, of communicating with one another at the distance of a mile or more, by pitching the voice high. The name *Ranz de Vaches* (Germ. *Kuhreihen*), literally *cow-rows*, is obviously derived from the order in which the cows march home at milking-time, in obedience to the shepherd's call, communicated by the voice, or through the *Alp-horn*, a simple tube of wood, wound round with bark, five or six feet long, admitting of but slight modulation, yet very melodious when caught up and prolonged by the mountain echoes. In some of the remoter pastoral districts of Switzerland, from which the ancient simplicity of manners is not altogether banished, the *Alp-horn* supplies, on the higher pastures, where no church is near, the place of the vesper-bell. The cow-herd, posted on the highest peak, as soon as the sun has set, pours forth the first four or five notes of the Psalm, "Praise God the Lord;" the same notes are repeated from distant Alps, and all within hearing, uncovering their heads and bending their knees, repeat their evening orison, after which the cattle are penned in their stalls, and the shepherds betake themselves to rest.

A word may be said on *Swiss Husbandry* to draw the attention of such persons as take an interest in the subject, to one or two practices peculiar to the country. The system of irrigating the meadows is carried to a very great extent and perfection; the mountain-torrents are turned over the fields by means of trenches and sluices, and not unfrequently, when the ground is much inclined, the stream is conducted to the spot where it is required through troughs hollowed out of the stem of fir-trees. The trenches sometimes extend for miles. The drainings of dunghills, cow-houses, and pigsties are not allowed to run to waste, but are carefully collected in a vat by the farmer, and at the fit moment carried out in carts to the fields, and ladled over them, very much to their benefit, and to the equal disgust of the olfactory nerves of all who pass; the air, far and near, being filled with this truly Swiss fragrance. The industry of the people and their struggles for subsistence, in some of the high valleys, are truly wonderful. The grain-crops are wretched, but the grass is sweet and

good. (See § 15.) In the best and lowest pasturages they get three crops a-year. The cattle feed on the high mountains during the summer, and are supported in châteaux by the hay of the valley during the long winter. An Englishman accustomed to buy everything, can hardly realise the domestic economy of a Swiss peasant. He has his patches of wheat, of potatoes, of barley, of hemp, of flax, and, if possible, of vines; his own cows, his own goats, his own sheep. On the produce of his own land and flocks he feeds; his clothes are of homespun, from the wool of his sheep; his linen and the dresses of the women of his family are made from his own flax or hemp, frequently woven by the women of his own family. The timber he requires for his house or for firing is supplied from the land of the commune or parish, either for nothing or for a very small sum. What little money he requires is derived from the sale of cheese. The interior economy of a Swiss village is very interesting: it is only by ingenious contrivances for saving labour and by amazing industry that it is possible for the inhabitants to maintain themselves in such a climate.

The Swiss mountaineers are skilful marksmen with the rifle, and, like their neighbours the Tyrolese, meet constantly to practise and engage in trials of skill. There are clubs or societies in almost every valley and parish, and constant matches between them; besides which, in most of the cantons, and every year, a *grand Federal Rifle Match* is held near one or other of the large towns, at which all the best shots from the whole of Switzerland meet to contend for a prize. An accomplished English nobleman (Lord Vernon) gained the *first prize* at the Federal Match held at Basle, 1849.

There is *no regular army* in Switzerland, nor, with the exception of a few superior officers, is there any one who makes the army his exclusive profession. Every Swiss able-bodied man is however a soldier, and up to a certain age is called out for some weeks in the year to be drilled. This duty does not seem to be unpopular with the men, but their parents croak over the feasting and other extravagancies on these occasions. Large bodies of soldierlike men are occasionally met with, going to or returning from their annual drill. The army was divided on Jan. 1, 1863, into 3 descriptions of service, according to their age, viz. the *Elite* or *Contingent*, 83,900; the *Reserve*, 43,700; the *Landwehr*, 68,700; and *Federal Staff*, 637. Also the whole male population between 18 and 44, amounting to 340,000 men, are supposed to be available on an emergency. There are some crack corps, admission to which is obtained by exhibiting unusual skill with the rifle. The Swiss are by no means indisposed for fighting in their domestic disputes, and the contests between the different parties have been sanguinary and well contested.

Annual *contests in wrestling* also (called *Schwing Feste*) are held in different parts of Switzerland. The cantons which distinguish themselves for skill in this and other athletic exercises are Bern, Appenzell, and Unterwalden.

In the mountains everything is carried on men's and women's backs. Children of nine or ten are seen with a little wooden frame on their backs; as they grow older the size of the frame increases, and the weights which the men carry are surprising: 70 or 80 lbs. for 4 or 5 hours over the mountains. A man will carry 45 lbs. from Meyringen to Guttanen, 3 hours up a mountain-path, for 2 francs, or up the Rigi for 4½ francs.

Baths and Kirs.—In the course of this work baths will constantly be mentioned. There are many mineral springs in Switzerland, much resorted to by the Swiss themselves and by foreigners, but treated with utter neglect by the English, not one in a thousand of whom ever goes through a course of these baths. The arrangements are generally very rough; and there is an empiric course, or “kur,” prescribed for each, from which benefit is supposed to be derived. There are other “kurs” in which faith is placed by foreigners. At Gais and other places the patient is put upon a diet of the milk left after cheese has been made: this is called “cure au petit lait.” Near Vevay the grape “kur” is popular. The white sorts only are used, and of these from six to seven pounds are not unfrequently consumed in one day. The grapes are only eaten in the morning and forenoon, the other diet being chiefly animal, neither vegetables, milk, coffee, nor wine, being allowed. The grapes are supposed to improve the quality of the blood, and to act on the liver and mucous membranes. It might be imagined that the appetite would be palled by so large a quantity of grapes, but, on the contrary, it is said to be keenly excited: the “kur” is followed during a fortnight or three weeks under medical surveillance.

§ 14. ALPINE PASSES.

No part of the Alps is more interesting, either in a picturesque or in an historical point of view, than the passable gaps or notches in the ridge of the great chain, and the minor mountain buttresses branching from it, whereby alone this colossal wall of mountains may be scaled, and a direct passage and communication maintained between northern and southern Europe, as well as between one valley and another. It has been through these depressions that the great tide of population has poured since the earliest times; from these outlets have issued the barbarian swarms which so often desolated, and at last annihilated, the Roman Empire. There are more than 50 of these passes over the Swiss portion of the Alpine chain alone, or immediately communicating with the Swiss frontier.* A list of the principal passes is given in § 19.

In seeking a passage over the Alps, the most obvious course was to find out the valleys which penetrate farthest into the great chain, following the course of the rivers to their sources, and then to take the lowest traversable part in order to descend the opposite side. The variety and sudden transition presented by such a route are highly interesting. In the course of one day's journey the traveller passes from the climate of summer to winter, through spring. The alteration in the productions keeps pace with that of the temperature. Leaving behind him stubble-fields, whence the corn has been removed and housed, he comes to fields yet yellow and waving in the ear; a few miles farther and the crop is still green; yet higher, and corn refuses to grow. Before quitting the region of corn he enters one of dark, apparently interminable forests of pine and larch, clothing the mountain-sides in a sober vestment. Above this the hay-makers are collecting the short grass, the only produce which the ground will yield. Yet the stranger must not suppose that all is barrenness

* Mr. Brockedon has admirably illustrated them, both with his pencil and pen, in his beautiful work entitled ‘The Passes of the Alps,’ 2 vols. 4to.

even at this elevation. It seems as though nature were determined to make one last effort at the confines of the region of vegetation. From beneath the snow-bed, and on the very verge of the glacier, the profusion of flowers, their great variety, and surpassing beauty, are exceedingly surprising. Some of the greatest ornaments of our gardens, here born to blush unseen,—gentians, violets, anemones, and blue-bells, intermixed with bushes of the red rhododendron, the loveliest production of the Alps, scattered over the velvet turf, give it the appearance of a carpet of richest pattern. The insect world is not less abundant and varied,—thousands of winged creatures are seen hovering over the flowers, enjoying their short existence, for the summer at these elevations lasts but for 3 or 4 weeks : a premature winter soon cuts short this brief season of animal and vegetable activity. Above this region of spring, with its gush of springs, its young herbage and vivid greensward, its hum of insects just burst forth, and its natural flower-beds glittering with rain-drops, that of winter in Lapland or Siberia succeeds. The traveller may form an idea of the height he has reached by observing the vegetation. Vines disappear at 2000 feet, generally sooner ; oak-trees and wheat at 3000 feet ; beeches and barley at 4000 feet ; pines and firs at 6000 feet. Above 9000 feet flowering plants are very rare, but up to 11,000 feet they are found in sunny crevices. Above 11,000 feet a few blackened lichens alone preserve the semblance of vegetable life. It will of course be understood that in favourable situations these limits will be exceeded ; in unfavourable situations they will not be reached. At the summit of a high pass and amongst the glaciers the rarefied air is icy cold, and exercise and quick motion are necessary to keep up the circulation of the blood. The agreeable murmur of falling water, which has accompanied the traveller hitherto incessantly, here ceases,—all is solitude and silence, interrupted only by the shrill whistle of the marmot, or the hoarse cawing of an ill-omened raven. The ptarmigan starts up from among the broken rocks on the verge of the snow-field at the traveller's approach, and the lämmergeyer (the condor of the Alps), disturbed in his repast on the carcase of a sheep or cow, may sometimes be seen soaring upwards in a succession of corkscrew sweeps till he gains the ridge of the Alps, and then disappears.

Such are the remarkable gradations which the stranger encounters in the course of a few hours, on a single pass of the Alps ; but the most striking change of all is that from the region of snow and ice on the top of the mountain, to the sunny clime and rich vegetation of Italy, which await the traveller at the S. foot of the Alps. (See Rte. 59.)

The works of Nature, however, will not entirely occupy the attention and wonder of the wanderer in such a pass ; at least a share will be demanded for admiration of the works of man. The great highways, passable for carriages, over the high Alps, are, indeed, most surprising monuments of human skill and enterprise in surmounting what would appear, at first sight, to be intended by Nature as insurmountable. These proud constructions of art thread the valleys, cross the débris of rivers on long causeways, skirt the edge of the precipice, with walls of rock tottering over them, and torrents thundering below. Where the steep and hard surface of the cliff has not left an inch of space for a goat to climb along, they are conducted upon high terraces of solid masonry, or through a notch blasted by gunpowder in the wall of rock. In many instances a projecting

buttress of the mountain has blocked up all passage for ages, saying "thus far and no farther:" the skill of the modern engineer has pierced through this a tunnel or gallery; and the difficulty is vanquished, without the least change in the level of the road.

Sometimes an impediment is eluded by throwing bridges over a dizzy gorge, and shifting the road from side to side, frequently two or three times within the space of half a mile. Often the road reaches a spot down which the winter avalanches take their habitual course every year, sweeping everything before them, and which, even in summer, appears reeking and dripping with the lingering fragments of snow which it has left behind. Will not so irresistible an antagonist arrest the course of this frail undertaking of man? Not even the avalanche;—in such a situation the road either buries itself in subterranean galleries, driven through the mountain, or is sheltered by massive arcades of masonry, sometimes half a mile or three-quarters of a mile long. Over these the avalanche glides harmlessly, and is turned into the depths below.

Every opportunity is seized of gaining, by easy ascents, a higher level for the road; at length comes the main ascent, the central ridge, to be surmounted only by hard climbing. This is overcome by a succession of zigzag terraces, called *tourniquets* or *giravolte*, connected together by wide curves, to allow carriages to turn easily and rapidly. So skilful is their construction, with such easy bends and so gradual a slope, that in many Alpine roads the postilions, *with horses accustomed to the road*, trot down at a rapid pace. Sometimes as many as 50 of these zigzags succeed one another without interruption; and the traveller, as he passes backwards and forwards, hovering over the valley, is as though suspended to a pendulum, and swinging to and fro. The road itself has a most singular appearance, twisted about like an uncoiled rope or a riband unwound.

The travelling-carriage descends sometimes rapidly and without interruption for hours. A drag of tempered iron is quickly worn down, in that time, as thin as the blade of a knife, so great is the friction; and it is usual to substitute for the iron drag a wooden sabot, formed of the section of a fir-tree, with a groove cut in the centre to admit the wheel.

The winter's snow usually falls upon the Alpine passes more than 5000 ft. high about the second week in October (sometimes earlier), and continues till the first or second week in June. Yet even after this, the passage across the neck or Col, as it is called, is not stopped, except for a few days, until the snow can be cleared away. In some of the minor passes, indeed, traversed by a mere rough footpath or bridle-path, the traffic is much increased after the fall of the snow, which, by filling up depressions and smoothing the way, permits the transport of heavy merchandise on sledges, which move easily over the surface as soon as it is hardened.

Along the lines of the great carriage-roads strong houses are erected at intervals, called *Maisons de Refuge*, *Casa di Ricovero*, occupied by persons called Cantonniers, who are employed in mending the road and keeping it free from snow in winter, and are also paid to assist travellers in danger during snow-storms.

As near as possible to the summit of the pass a *Hospice* is generally erected, usually occupied by a band of charitable monks, as in the case of the Great St. Bernard, the Simplon, Cenis, St. Gothard, &c. The direction of the road across the summit of the ridge is marked by a line of tall poles,

which project above the snow, and, from being painted black, are easily recognised. Bells are rung in tempestuous weather, when the tourmente is raging and the mist and falling snow hide the landmarks, that the sound may aid when the sight fails.

The morning after a fall of snow labourers and peasants are assembled from all sides to shovel it off from the road. Where it is not very deep, it is cleared away by a snow-plough drawn by 6 or 8 oxen. As the winter advances and fresh falls occur, the snow accumulates, and the road near the summit of a pass presents the singular aspect of a path or lane cut between walls of snow sometimes 10 or 20 ft. high. Carriages are taken off their wheels and fastened upon sledges; ropes are attached to the roof, which are held by 6 or 8 sturdy guides running along on each side, to prevent the vehicle upsetting and rolling over the slippery ice down a precipice. More commonly, however, travellers are transferred to light narrow one-horse sledges, each carrying two passengers, by which communication is kept up, except during winter storms, when no living animal can withstand the fury of the elements. In this manner very high passes are crossed in the depth of winter with little risk. The spring is a season during which far greater danger is to be apprehended, from the avalanches which then fall.

The Swiss are essentially a road-making nation, and had good roads when those of continental Europe generally were still execrable. They bestow an amount of care and expense in avoiding hills and steep declivities which should make an Englishman ashamed of the state of things in the hilly parts of England. It is, however, strange that, after having spent enormous time and money in making a road level and good enough for a mail-coach at 11 miles an hour, they should persist in crawling along at 5 or 6 miles an hour.

§ 15. CHÂLETS AND PASTURAGES.

From the mountainous nature of Switzerland and its high elevation, the greater part of the surface, more than 1800 ft. above the sea, which is not bare rock, is pasture-land. The wealth of the people, like that of the patriarchs of old, in a great measure lies in cattle and their produce, on which account the pastoral life of the Swiss deserves some attention. The bright verdure of the meadows which clothe the valleys of Switzerland is one of the distinguishing features of the country; and the music of the cow-bells, borne along by the evening breeze, is one of the sweetest sounds that greet the traveller's ear.

The Alps, or mountain-pasturages (for that is the meaning of the word Alp in Switzerland and Tyrol) are usually the property of the commune; in fact common land, on which the inhabitants of the neighbouring town or village have the right of pasturing a certain number of cattle, the regulations as to which are often very curious.

"In the spring, as soon as the snow has disappeared, and the young grass sprouts up, the cattle are sent from the villages up to the first and lower pastures. Should a certain portion of these be exhausted, they change their quarters to another part of the mountain. Here they stay till about the 10th or 12th of June, when the cattle are driven to the

middle ranges of pastures. That portion of the herds intended for a summer campaign on the highest Alps remain here till the beginning of July, and on the 4th of that month generally ascend to them; return to the middle range of pastures about 7 or 8 weeks afterwards, spend there about 14 days or 3 weeks, to eat the aftergrass; and finally return into the valleys about the 10th or 11th of October, where they remain in the vicinity of the villages till driven by the snow and tempests of winter into the stables.

“That portion of the cattle, on the other hand, which is not destined to pass the summer on the higher Alps, and are necessary for the supply of the village with milk and butter, descend from the middle pastures on the 4th of July into the valley, and consume the grass upon the pasturage belonging to the commune, till the winter drives them under shelter. The very highest Alpine pasturages are never occupied more than 3 or 4 weeks at the furthest.”—*Latrobe*. The tourist in the higher Alps continually meets the flocks and herds migrating from one pasture to another, or to the valley below.

Sometimes the owners of the cattle repair in person to the Alps, and pass the summer among them along with their families, superintending the herdsmen, and assisting in the manufacture of cheese; and in some parts there are whole villages inhabited only temporarily; but in general only a sufficient number of men to attend to the herds and to make the cheeses remain with the cattle, in which case the cows or goats belonging to each owner are tried twice a-year, *i. e.* the amount of cheese produced in a day or two by each is ascertained; then at the end of the season the cheese made is divided among the owners in the proportions indicated by the trial. The best cheeses are made upon pastures 3000 ft. above the sea-level, in the vales of Simmen and Saanen (Gruyère) and in the Emmenthal. The best cows there yield, in summer, between 20 lbs. and 40 lbs. of milk daily, and each cow produces, by the end of the season of 4 months, on an average, 2 cwt. of cheese.

The life of the cowherd (Fr. *Vacher*, Germ. *Senner*) is by no means such an existence of pleasure as romances in general, and that of Rousseau in particular, have represented it. His labours are dirty, arduous, and constant; he has to collect 80 or 90 cows twice a-day to be milked, to look after stragglers, to make the cheese, and keep all the utensils employed in the process in the most perfect state of cleanliness. The cowherd has generally, as assistants, a friend (*Freund*), who acts as a carrier to the low country, and a lad (*Kuhbub*). In some parts the herdsmen live for many months almost entirely on milk and cheese, not eating 10 lbs. of bread or potatoes in the time. The cattle are frequently enticed home at milking time by the offer of salt, which they relish highly, and which is considered very wholesome for them. The allowance for a cow is 4 or 5 lbs. in a quarter of a year. The *Stoss* is an extent of pasture sufficient for the maintenance of 1 cow, or 1 colt, or 4 calves, or $\frac{1}{4}$ of a horse.

The *Châlet* (Germ. *Sennhütte*) in which the herdsman resides is literally a log-hut, formed of trunks of pines, notched at the extremities so as to fit into one another at the angles of the building, where they cross: it has a low flat roof, weighted with stones to keep fast the shingle-roof and prevent its being blown away by the wind. A building of this kind is rarely air-tight or water-tight. The interior is usually blackened with smoke and very dirty, boasting of scarcely any furniture, except, perhaps, a table

and rude bench, and the apparatus of the dairy, including a huge kettle for heating the milk. A truss of straw, in the loft above, serves the inmates for a bed. The ground around the hut on the outside is usually poached by the feet of the cattle, and the heaps of mud and dung render it difficult to approach the door.

There is another kind of *châlet*, a mere shed or barn, in which the hay is housed until the winter, when it is conveyed over the snow in sledges down to the villages below. A pastoral Swiss valley is usually speckled over with huts of this kind, giving it the appearance, to a stranger, of being much more populous than it is in reality: in the Simmenthal alone there are, it is said, 10,000 *châlets*. This large number of *châlets* is necessary, because everything—goats, sheep, cattle, horses, and food—must be put under cover for some months during the snow.

The herdsmen shift their habitations from the lower to the upper pasturages, as their cattle ascend and descend the Alps, at different seasons, and they sometimes have 2 or 3 places of temporary abode. The experienced traveller is careful to inquire beforehand what *châlets* are occupied; otherwise when in search of repose or refreshment, after a long day's journey, he is liable to the disappointment, on approaching what he conceives to be a human habitation, of finding that it is a mere hay-barn, or else a deserted *châlet*; and he may learn, with much mortification, that he has still some tedious miles to trudge before he can reach the first permanently occupied dwelling. What an agreeable contrast to reach a well-appointed *châlet* of the better sort, where delicious milk cooled in the mountain stream, fresh butter, bread, and cheese, are spread out on a clean napkin before the hungry and tired stranger!

§ 16. GLACIERS* (GERM. GLETSCHER: ITAL. GHIACCIAIA).

The Glaciers are amongst the most remarkable objects in nature: to them Alpine scenery owes much of its strangeness and sublimity. A glacier may be described as a stream of ice, descending into the valleys of high mountain chains, fed by the snow which occupies their tops and fills the hollows and clefts between their peaks and ridges; what it loses by melting at its lower end is supplied by the descent of new masses from the upper regions. The snow which falls upon the summits and plateaux of the high Alps is at first a dry and loose powder. The action of the sun gradually converts this into a granular mass, as the minute particles are aggregated together in irregular roundish grains. In this state the entire mass appears white and opaque, but the separate grains are transparent. In the course of successive years, as one layer accumulates over another, pressure begins to act on the lower portions of the mass. The separate grains being brought into contact adhere together, until the whole becomes a seemingly solid mass of ice. The accumulation of snow, partly transformed into ice, in the upper regions, may be many hundreds

* The best information respecting glaciers is to be found in Professor Forbes' 'Travels in the Alps,' already alluded to, in Agassiz's 'Etudes sur les Glaciers,' Tyndall's 'Glaciers of the Alps,' and Forbes's 'Occasional Papers on the Theory of Glaciers.' Local names for glaciers—in Tyrol, *Firn*; in Carinthia, *Käs*; in the Grisons, *Wader* or *Vedreg*; in part of Italy, *Vedretto*; in the Vallais, *Biegno*; in Piedmont, *Ruize*; in the Pyrenees, *Serneille*.

of feet in thickness, and the pressure on the undermost part is therefore enormously great. The glacier ice yields to this pressure, and is gradually forced downwards on the slopes of the mountain into the upper valleys which afford the easiest channels for its descent. The upper granular and unconsolidated part is called in German *Firn*, or *Névé* in French, the term *Glacier* (Gletscher) being applied to the lower limbs of more solid ice, which stretch down into the valleys. The *Firn*, or *Névé*, is a region of complete desolation; no animal intrudes upon it save a chance insect, and only the scantiest lichens appear on the rocks around it. The *firn* occurs only at a height where the snow which falls in the winter does not entirely disappear in the course of the following year; while that which falls on the lower glacier is almost always melted in the course of the following summer, and never combines with the ice.*

Escher has computed the number of glaciers among the Swiss Alps at 600, and the extent of surface occupied by them at 1000 square miles: this, however, must be but a vague estimate. They vary from a few square yards to acres and miles in extent, covering, in some instances, whole districts, filling up entirely the elevated hollows and basins between the peaks and ridges of the Alps, and sending forth arms and branches into the inhabited valleys, below the region of forests, and even below the level at which corn will grow.

It is such offsets of the glacier as these that are presented to the view of the traveller from the villages of Chamouni, Zermatt, and Grindelwald. These, however, are, as it were, but the skirts and fringes of that vast everlasting drapery of ice which clothes all the upper region of the Alps. These fields or tracts of uninterrupted glacier have been called "Seas of Ice" (*Mers de Glace*, *Eismeeren*), and there are three such among the Swiss and Savoyard Alps, which merit especial mention; that around Mont Blanc, that around the Monte Rosa and the Cervin, and that of the Bernese Oberland, around the Finster-Aar-Horn. The last sends out no less than 13 branches; its extent has been estimated at 125 square m., and it is supposed to be the largest in Europe.

The greatest thickness of the glaciers has been commonly estimated at between 600 and 800 ft. The greatest thickness of the *Mer de Glace*, on the N. flank of Mont Blanc, is estimated by Forbes at 350 ft. deep. Saussure had calculated it at 600 ft. Agassiz assures us that there are holes in the Aar glacier 780 ft. deep.

Notwithstanding their great extent and solidity, the glaciers are under-

* A serious error is conveyed by the common expression, "the line of perpetual snow," or, "where snow never melts." There is no spot on the Alps, nor on any other snow-clad mountains, where snow does not melt under the influence of a summer sun at mid-day. It melts even on the top of Mont Blanc; but there, and on the summits of the other high Alps, the duration of the sun's heat is so short, that very little is melted during the year, and, for the same reason, there is very little moisture in the air, and, consequently, very little snow can fall: and the greater part of this is carried to a lower level by the storms which often rage round the mountain tops. What is called "*the snow line*" does not depend on elevation alone, but on all the circumstances which affect the quantity of snow that falls during a year, and the quantity that melts during the same period. It is the limit at which the quantity melted in the year exactly equals the quantity that has fallen. Independent of a certain amount of variation from one season to another, it varies with the latitude, with the exposure to certain winds, and even on the two sides of the same mountain, being generally higher on the S. side than the N. The snow will likewise rest longer, and extend lower down, upon a mountain of granite than upon one of limestone, in proportion as the two rocks are good or bad conductors of heat, and this is the case even in contiguous mountains, members of the same chain.

going a perpetual process of renovation and destruction. The lower portions descending into the valleys are gradually dissolved by the increased temperature which prevails at so low a level. The summer sun, aided by warm winds, acts upon the surface, so that, in the middle of the day, it abounds in pools, and is traversed by rills of water. The constant evaporation, from every part exposed to the air, produces great diminution in the upper beds; the temperature of the earth, also, which is at all seasons greater than that of ice, melts yearly a small portion of its lower surface. By the combined influence of these causes the bulk and thickness of the glacier are reduced during the hot season until in the autumn it has fallen many feet below its ordinary level. The vacancy thus caused is entirely filled up from above by the winter's snow falling upon the mountain-tops, and on the whole upper region of the high Alps, which flows into the higher valleys, pressed down by its own weight. Henceforth the ice-stream, like the river, moves onward steadily by day and night, and even in the winter, though its progress is slower,

“The glacier's cold and restless mass
Moves onward day by day.”—*Byron*.

It is also sensibly retarded by hard frost, and accelerated by thaw. The snow which has fallen in the winter on the lower part of the glacier melts in the spring, as it would on land; and, on cold nights, the small pools of water on the glacier freeze, and thaw again under the sun's rays.

The cause of the movement of glaciers has been much discussed and variously explained. De Saussure supposed that it proceeds from their weight alone, and that they slide down the inclined surface of the valleys, aided by the ice melting below, in contact with the earth. Others believed that the descent was caused by dilatation of the glacier, in consequence of the water that penetrates the mass of ice, alternately thawing and freezing. The theory of their motion now generally accepted by scientific men is that of Professor J. D. Forbes, modified in some respects by the subsequent researches of Professor Tyndall. Without adverting to disputed points, which are discussed in their works, it may be said that under the pressure of its own enormous weight glacier ice becomes plastic and moulds itself to the form of the channel through which it moves. It is not uncommon to see one of these vast rivers of ice turn sharply round a projecting promontory of rock, or contract its bed to less than half its previous width in passing through a gorge, and then expand again in a more open part of the valley. The centre of the ice-stream moves quicker than the sides, which are retarded by the friction of the rocks, &c., and, for the same reason, the top moves faster than the bottom. The rate of onward motion varies very much in different glaciers, according to the slope and the mass of ice in motion. Opposite the Montanvert the quickest moving part moves about 30 inches a day in summer, 16 inches in winter.—See Tyndall's ‘Glaciers of the Alps.’

The surface of the mountain, which forms the bed of a glacier, however hard, is subjected to an extraordinary process of grinding and polishing from the vast masses of ice constantly passing over it. The harder fragments, such as granite and quartz, interposed between the ice and the rock, act like diamonds on glass, and scratch deep and long grooves on the surface. The seat of ancient glaciers, which have now entirely disappeared,

may still be discovered by the furrows left behind them on the rocks. These furrows and polished surfaces (*roches moutonnées*) are very remarkable above Guttanen on the Grimsel road. The motion of a glacier may be admirably observed at the Rosenlauri glacier. The foot of the glacier there, being on a surface of rock, marks its advance or retrogression daily by the heaps of rubbish it pushes forwards, whilst on the rocks above may be seen the moraine of the glacier in former years when it was larger.

The nature of the upper surface of the ice depends partly upon that of the ground on which it rests : where it is even, or nearly so, the ice is smooth and level ; but whenever the supporting surface becomes slanting or uneven, the glacier begins to split and gape in all directions. As it approaches a steeper declivity or precipice, as in the lower glacier of Grindelwald, the entire mass is cleft by deep and wide fissures, which generally intersect each other, leaving crags, obelisks, and towers of ice of the most fantastic shapes, varying in height from 20 to 80 ft. Being unequally melted by the wind and sun, they are continually changing their form and crumbling away, either by their own weight, or the pressure of other masses. After the difficulties are passed, these *aiguilles* and obelisks of ice, being pressed together at the bottom of the descent, close up again, and, as soon as the surface of the mountain below them is level, the glacier again assumes a nearly level and compact character.

The *Crevasses*, or fissures, which traverse the upper portion of the glacier, before it becomes entirely fractured and disrupted, run in a transverse direction, never extending quite across the ice-field, but narrowing out at the extremities, so that, when they gape too wide to leap across, they may be turned by following them to their termination. These rents and fissures are the chief source of danger to those who cross the glaciers ; sometimes, from their numbers, monotonous sameness of appearance, and perplexing confusion, by which the traveller is nearly bewildered, and even the most experienced guides are sometimes at fault and lose their way, and have the greatest difficulty in extricating themselves from their intricacies. In the upper regions the crevasses are concealed by a treacherous coating of snow ; and many a bold chamois-hunter has found a grave in their recesses. Ebel mentions an instance of a shepherd, in 1787, who, in driving his flock over the ice to a high pasturage, had the misfortune to tumble into one of these clefts. He fell in the vicinity of a torrent which flowed under the glacier, and, by following up its bed under the ice, succeeded in reaching the surface of the glacier with a broken arm. The man's name was Christian Bohren : he was living in 1849, and acted as guide to the upper glacier of Grindelwald. More melancholy was the fate of M. Mouron, a clergyman of Vevay : he was engaged in making some scientific researches upon the glacier, and was in the act of leaning over to examine a singular well-shaped aperture in the ice, when the staff on which he rested gave way ; he was precipitated to the bottom, and his lifeless and mangled body was recovered from the depths of the glacier a few days after. It may be hoped that the attention recently directed to this subject by several fatal accidents may induce travellers to adopt the precautions already urged in § 12.

The crevasses, owing their formation to the advancing movement of the glacier, whatever causes tend to accelerate that movement, tend at the same

time to widen existing crevasses and to produce new ones. In this way the warm S. or S.E. wind, called the *föhn* in Uri and among the Bernese Alps, is very instrumental in causing the glacier to split, and the loud reports thus occasioned, called by the herdsmen the growlings (*brullen*) of the glacier, are regarded as a sign of bad weather, because the same wind, bearing a current of heated air from the plains of Italy or the Adriatic, causes rain or snow when this current is cooled down among the higher peaks of the Alps. The traveller who ventures to cross any of the larger glaciers may, at times, both hear and see the fissures widening around him. The crevasses exhibit in perfection the beautiful *azure blue* colour of the glacier; the cause of which has not been satisfactorily accounted for. It is the same tint of ultramarine which the Rhône exhibits at Geneva, after leaving all its impurities behind it in the lake; and the writer has even observed the same beautiful tint in footmarks and holes made in fresh-fallen snow, not more than a foot deep, among the high Alps.—See Tyndall's 'Glaciers of the Alps.'

The traveller who has only *read* of glaciers is often disappointed at the first sight of them, by the appearance of their surface, which is rough, tossed about in hillocks and gullies, and, except when covered with fresh-fallen snow, or at very great heights, has none of the purity which might be expected from fields of ice. On the contrary, it usually exhibits a surface of dirty white, soiled with mud, and often covered with stones and gravel. Such beds of stone, dirt, and rubbish are common to most glaciers, and, when accumulated in continuous masses, are called *Moraines*, running along the glacier in parallel lines at the sides (called *lateral Moraines*, German *Gandecken*); or in the middle (*medial Moraines*, in German *Guffer*), and *terminal* or end Moraines. They are formed in the following manner:—The edges of the glacier, at its upper extremity, receive the fragments of rock detached from the mountains around by the destructive agency of moisture and frost; but as the glacier itself is constantly descending, this fallen rubbish goes along with it, increased from behind by the *débris* of each succeeding winter, so that it forms a nearly uninterrupted line from the top of the ice-field to the bottom, thus forming a lateral moraine. Wherever the glacier from one valley meets that of another, the moraines from the two unite and form one, running down the centre of the united glacier instead of along its margin, as before, thus forming a medial moraine. Such a confluence of moraines is well seen on the glacier of the Aar (Route 26); and upon the great glacier of Gorner descending from Monte Rosa (Route 127) six or eight may be seen running side by side, each traceable to its origin by the nature of the rocks composing it.

"The moraines remain upon the surface of the glacier, and, unless after a very long or very uneven course, they are not dissipated or ingulfed. On the contrary, the largest stones attain a conspicuous pre-eminence; the heaviest moraine, far from indenting the surface of the ice, or sinking amongst its substance, rides upon an icy ridge as an excrescence, which gives to it the character of a colossal back-bone of the glacier, or sometimes appears like a noble causeway, fit, indeed, for giants, stretching away for leagues over monotonous ice, with a breadth of some hundreds of feet, and raised from 50 to 80 ft. above its general level. Almost every stone, however, rests upon ice; the mound is not a mound of *débris*, as it might at first sight appear."—*Forbes*.

The *terminal moraines* are heaped up often to a height of 80 or 100 ft., and sometimes much higher: the moraines in the Allée Blanche and on the glacier of Blaitière at Chamouni must be 500 or 600 ft. high. Not unfrequently there are 3 or 4 such ridges, one behind the other, like so many lines of intrenchment. The broken stones, sand, and mud, mixed with shattered fragments of ice, of which they are composed, have an unsightly appearance, being perfectly barren of vegetation; but each heap is, as it were, a geological cabinet, containing specimens of all the neighbouring mountains. The glacier, indeed, has a natural tendency to purge itself from impurities, and whatever happens to fall upon it is gradually discharged in this manner. It likewise exerts great mechanical force, and, like a vast millstone, grinds down not only the rock which composes its channel, but all the fragments interposed between it and the rock; forming, in the end, a sort of stone-meal. The extent of the moraine depends on the character of the strata of the mountains around the glacier: where they are of granite, or other hard rock, not easily decomposed by the weather, the moraine is of small extent; and it is largest where the boundary rocks are of brittle limestone and fissile slate. The researches of Swiss naturalists (Agassiz and Charpentier) have discovered extensive moraines, not only in the lower part of the Valais, but even on the shores of the Lake Lemman, at a height of not more than 200 or 300 ft. above it; indicating that, during some anterior condition of our planet, the valley of the Rhône was occupied by glaciers, in situations at present 40 or 50 m. distant from the nearest existing ice-field, and 3000 or 4000 ft. below it. The existence of boulder-stones, so common on the Jura and elsewhere, is now generally attributed to glaciers, the boulders having been either carried on the surface of glaciers to their present position, or floated there on icebergs broken off from glaciers.*

A singular circumstance occurs when a single large mass of rock has fallen upon the glacier; the shade and protection from the sun's rays afforded by the stone prevents the ice on which it rests from melting, and, while the surface around is gradually lowered, it remains supported on a pedestal or table, like a mushroom on a stalk, often attaining a height of several feet; at length the stone falls off the pillar and the process recommences. The glaciers of the Aar furnish fine examples of these *tables des glaciers*, as they are called. The surface of the glacier has been ascertained to lose 3 ft. of surface by melting in as many weeks of fine warm weather. An exactly opposite phenomenon occurs when a small stone, not more than an inch thick, or a leaf, rests upon the ice. As it absorbs the sun's rays with greater rapidity than ice, not merely its surface but its entire substance is warmed through, and instead of protecting it melts the ice below it, and gradually sinks, forming a hole to a considerable depth, and generally a pool of water, of which the traveller is often glad to avail himself: these little pools are generally frozen over at night.

The occurrence of Red Snow, which at one time was treated with incredulity, is common among the High Alps, and is produced either by minute insects and their eggs, or by a species of cryptogamic plant, called *Palmella Nivalis*, or *Protococcus*, a true vegetable, which plants itself on the surface of the snow, takes root, germinates, produces seed, and dies. In the state of

* See an interesting paper on the Ancient Glaciers of Switzerland and North Wales, by Professor Ramsay, Local Director of the Geological Survey of England, in 'Peaks, Passes, and Glaciers;' also published separately.

germination it imparts a pale carmine tint to the snow : this increases, as the plant comes to maturity, to a deep crimson blush, which gradually fades, and, as the plant decays, becomes a black dust or mould. By collecting some of the coloured snow in a bottle, and pouring it on a sheet of paper, the form of the plant may be discovered with a microscope, as soon as the water has evaporated.

It has been already observed that the vacancy caused by the melting of the lower portion of the glacier is filled up by the winter snow from above. But, as may be supposed, it often happens, after mild winters and warm summers, that the supply is not equal to the void ; and *vice versa*, after severe winters and rainy summers, the glacier is overloaded, as it were : indeed, it is scarcely possible that an exact equilibrium of supply and consumption should be preserved, and there is no doubt that glaciers are subject both to temporary and to secular variation. The glaciers throughout the Alps appear to have made a general movement in advance between the years 1817 and 1822, in consequence of the coldness of the six preceding summers. The glaciers of Bossons and des Bois, in the valley of Chamouni, and that of Grindelwald, in the Bernese Alps, extended so far in width as well as length, as to overthrow large trees of the growth of many centuries. Afterwards they began to retreat, and soon regained their original limits. Instances have occurred of the sudden advance of a glacier, as in the Gadmenthal (Route 32), where a road has been destroyed by this cause, and even of the formation of new glaciers within the memory of man, as in the Upper Engadine (?), and at the base of the Titlis : but these have been followed by a similar retrocession, and the newly formed ice-fields are rarely permanent. It is certain that, at present, both the Mer de Glace, under Mont Blanc, and the Grindelwald Glacier, appear to have shrunk, and sunk considerably below the level they once attained ; but this may be merely temporary, or even only their dimensions in summer, when most reduced. Prof. Forbes states that in 1845 the glacier of Findelen, near Zermatt, was retreating ; since that time it has advanced, destroying fields and chalets ; and Sir C. Lyell has informed the Editor that it advanced in 1857, notwithstanding the unusual heat of that summer.

Professors Agassiz, Forbes, and Tyndall have made some interesting experiments and observations upon the movement and rate of progress of the glaciers ; but Hugi was the first observer who attempted to measure their advance. In 1829 the latter noted the position of numerous loose blocks lying on the surface of the lower glacier of the Aar, relatively to the fixed rocks at its sides. He also measured the glacier and erected signal-posts on it. In 1836 he found everything altered ; many of the loose blocks had moved off and entirely disappeared, along with the ice that supported them. A hut, which he had hastily erected, to shelter himself and his companions, had advanced 2184 ft. A mass of granite, containing 26,000 cubic ft., originally buried under the snow of the firn, which had become converted into glacier, had not only been raised to the surface, but was elevated above it, in the air, upon two pedestals, or pillars, of ice ; so that a large party might have found shelter under it. A signal-post, stuck into a mass of granite, had not only made as great an advance as the hut, but the distance between it and the hut had been increased 760 ft. by the expansion of the glacier. In 1839 M. Agassiz found that Hugi's cabin

had advanced 4400 ft. from the position it originally occupied, when first built in 1827; and in 1840 it was 200 ft. lower. Hugi's observations on the Aar glacier give as its rate of motion 240 ft. per annum. The more recent and precise observations of Professors Forbes and Tyndall have ascertained the daily motion of the ice on the Mer de Glace, and proved that it proceeds regularly, not by fits and starts, but accelerated in speed by thaws and retarded by frosts, and that the motion is different in different parts of the glacier. The advance of the ice-field of the Mer de Glace is calculated at between 600 and 700 ft. yearly, or nearly 2 ft. a day; so that the traveller, whilst walking over the glacier, is insensibly descending to the valley below.

It is highly interesting to consider how important a service the glaciers perform in the economy of nature. These dead and chilly fields of ice, which prolong the reign of winter throughout the year, are, in reality, the source of life and the springs of vegetation. They are the locked-up reservoirs, the sealed fountains, from which the vast rivers traversing the great continents of our globe are sustained. The summer heat, which dries up other sources of water, first opens out their bountiful supplies. When the rivers of the plain begin to shrink and dwindle within their parched beds, the torrents of the Alps, fed by melting snow and glaciers, rush down from the mountains and supply the deficiency; and, at that season (July and August), the rivers and lakes of Switzerland are fullest.

During the whole summer, the traveller who crosses the glaciers hears the torrents rustling and running below him at the bottom of the azure clefts. These plenteous rills gushing forth in their sub-glacial beds, are generally all collected in one stream, at the foot of the glacier, which, in consequence, is eaten away into a vast dome-shaped arch, sometimes 100 ft. high, gradually increasing until the constant thaw weakens its support, and it gives way and falls in with a crash. Such caverns of ice are seen in great perfection, in some years, at the source of the Arveyron, in the valley of Chamouni, and in the glaciers of Grindelwald. The streams issuing from glaciers are distinguished by their turbid dirty-white or milky colour. The waters collected by the melting of the ice from all parts of the surface of a glacier often accumulate into torrents, which, at length, precipitate themselves into a hole or fissure in its surface in the form of a cascade.

The following striking passage from Professor Forbes's 'Alps,' p. 386, will form a good conclusion to this account of glaciers:—"Poets and philosophers have delighted to compare the course of human life to that of a river; perhaps a still apter simile might be found in the history of a glacier. Heaven-descended in its origin, it yet takes its mould and conformation from the hidden womb of the mountains which brought it forth. At first soft and ductile, it acquires a character and firmness of its own, as an inevitable destiny urges it on its onward career. Jostled and constrained by the crosses and inequalities of its prescribed path, hedged in by impassable barriers which fix limits to its movements, it yields groaning to its fate, and still travels forward seamed with the scars of many a conflict with opposing obstacles. All this while, although wasting, it is renewed by an unseen power,—it evaporates, but is not consumed. On its surface it bears the spoils which, during the progress of existence, it has made its own; often weighty burdens devoid of beauty or value, at times precious

masses, sparkling with gems or with ore. Having at length attained its greatest width and extension, commanding admiration by its beauty and power, waste predominates over supply, the vital springs begin to fail; it stoops into an attitude of decrepitude—it drops the burdens, one by one, which it had borne so proudly aloft—its dissolution is inevitable. But as it is resolved into its elements, it takes all at once a new, and livelier, and disembarrassed form: from the wreck of its members it arises ‘another, yet the same’—a noble, full-bodied, arrowy stream, which leaps rejoicing over the obstacles which before had stayed its progress, and hastens through fertile valleys towards a freer existence, and a final union in the ocean with the boundless and the infinite.”

§ 17. AVALANCHES—SNOW-STORMS—FLOODS.

“The avalanche—the thunderbolt of snow.”—*Byron*.

Avalanches (Germ. Lawinen) are those accumulations of snow which precipitate themselves from the mountains, either by their own weight or by the loosening effects of the sun’s heat, into the valleys below, sweeping everything before them, and causing, at times, great destruction of life and property. The fearful crash which accompanies their descent is often heard at a distance of several leagues.

The natives of the Alps distinguish between several different kinds of avalanches. The *staub-lawinen* (dust avalanches) are formed of loose fresh-fallen snow, heaped up by the wind early in the winter, before it has begun to melt or combine together. Such a mass, when it reaches the edge of a cliff or declivity, tumbles from point to point, increasing in quantity as well as in impetus every instant, and spreading itself over a wide extent of surface. It descends with prodigious rapidity, and has been known to rush down a distance of 10 m. from the point whence it was first detached; not only descending one side of a valley, but also ascending the opposite hill by the velocity acquired in its fall, overwhelming and laying prostrate a whole forest of firs in its descent, and breaking down another forest, up the opposite side, so as to lay the heads of the trees up the hill in its ascent. *Slide-avalanches* (*Schleich-lawine* or *Schlipfe*) slip down from inclined surfaces often without disturbance of the surface, and it is only when they begin to roll over and bound that they become *schlag* or *grund-lawinen*.

Another kind of avalanche, the *Grund-lawinen*, occurs in spring, during the months of April and May, when the sun becomes powerful, and the snow thaws rapidly under its influence. They fall constantly from different parts of the mountains, at different hours in the day, accordingly as each part is reached by the sun: from the E. side between 10 and 12, from the S. side between 12 and 2, and later in the day from the W. and N. This species is more dangerous in its effects, from the snow being clammy and adhesive, as well as hard and compact. Any object buried by it can only be dug out by the most arduous labour. Men or cattle overwhelmed by the *staub-lawine* can extricate themselves by their own exertions; or, at any rate, from the snow being less compact, may breathe for some hours through the interstices. In the case of the *grund-lawine*, the sufferers are usually either crushed or suffocated, and are, at any rate, so entangled that they can only be rescued by the aid of others.

borders of the Mer de Glace ; especially if the spectator will bear in mind the immense distance at which he is placed from the objects which he sees and hears, and will consider that, at each roar, whole tons of solid ice are broken off from the parent glacier, and in tumbling many hundred feet perhaps, are shattered to atoms and ground to powder.

The *Snow-storms*, *Tourmentes*, or *Guxen*, which occur on the Alps, are much dreaded by the chamois-hunter, the shepherd, and those most accustomed to traverse the High Alps : how much more formidable must they be to the inexperienced traveller ! They consist of furious and tempestuous winds, somewhat of the nature of a whirlwind, which occur on the exposed promontories, the summit-ridges, and elevated gorges of the Alps, either accompanied by snow, or filling the air with that recently fallen, while the flakes are still dry, tossing them about like powder or dust. In an instant the atmosphere is filled with snow ; earth, sky, mountain, abyss, and landmark of every kind, are obliterated from view, as though a curtain were let down on all sides of the wanderer. All traces of path, or of the footsteps of preceding travellers, are at once effaced, and the poles planted to mark the direction of the road are frequently overturned. In some places the gusts sweep the rock bare of snow, heaping it up in others, perhaps across the path, to a height of 20 ft. or more, barring all passage, and driving the wayfarer to despair. At every step he fears to plunge into an abyss, or sink overhead in the snow. Large parties of men and animals have been overwhelmed by the snow-wreaths on the St. Gothard, where they sometimes attain a height of 40 or 50 ft. These tempests are accompanied almost every year by loss of life ; and, though of less frequent occurrence in summer than in winter and spring, are one reason why it is dangerous for inexperienced travellers to attempt to cross remote and elevated passes without a guide.

The guides and persons residing on the mountain-passes, from the appearance of the sky, and other weather-signs known to them, can generally foresee the occurrence of *tourmentes*, and can tell when the fall of avalanches is to be apprehended.

Floods.—In most of the Swiss valleys traces are to be seen of terrible floods, which have from time to time poured down from the mountains, and devastated tracts of land more or less large. These floods usually occur at the melting of the snow in spring, but may happen at any time of year when, either from excessive rain, or from the too rapid melting of the snow, or from a dam of ice falling and then bursting, a mountain torrent swells beyond its usual proportions, and carries down stones, earth, huge rocks, and trees, sweeping everything before it till it reaches the valley, when it spreads out, often covering acres of fertile land with rubbish, and ruining the land for ever. There is hardly a year in which some part of Switzerland does not suffer from this cause. A flood in the autumn of 1852 converted the valley of the Rhone below Martigny into a lake, and covered hundreds of acres of land with rubbish, which in 1856 remained untouched and uncultivated. The flood on the same day carried away all the bridges but one in the valley of Chamouni ; whilst, above Sallenches, the river left its bed, and cut out a channel 30 or 40 ft. wide, and 6 or 8 ft. deep, through the fertile land and down to the bare rock. Great floods are described in Rte. 56 and Rte. 136. The upper part of the valley of the Rhône is now a desert in consequence of floods, and traces of great floods

may be seen in the valley of the Rhine and in the vale of Sarnen, and, in fact, in nearly every valley. Those who have once seen the recent effects of a flood will soon detect them continually, though the grass and bushes in a few years conceal the traces from those who do not know where to look for them.

§ 18. GOÎTRE AND CRETINISM.

“Quis tumidum guttur miratur in Alpibus.”—*Juv.*

It is a remarkable fact that, amidst some of the most magnificent scenery of the globe, where Nature seems to have put forth all her powers in exciting emotions of wonder and elevation in the mind, man appears, from a mysterious visitation of disease, in his most degraded and pitiable condition. Such, however, is the fact. It is in the grandest and most beautiful valleys of the Alps that the maladies of *goître* and *cretinism* prevail.

Goître is a swelling in the front of the neck (of the thyroid gland, or the parts adjoining), which increases with the growth of the individual, until, in some cases, it attains an enormous size, and becomes “a hideous wallet of flesh,” to use the words of Shakspeare, hanging pendulous down to the breast. It is not, however, attended with pain, and generally seems to be more unsightly to the spectator than inconvenient or hateful to the bearer; but there are instances in which its increase is so enormous that the individual, unable to support his burden, crawls along the ground under it. On the N. of the Alps women appear to be the principal sufferers from this complaint, and in the Valais scarcely a woman is free from it, and it is said that those who have no swelling are laughed at and called goose-necked. At Domo d’ Ossola it seems more prevalent among the men.

Cretinism, which occurs in the same localities as goître, and evidently arises from the same cause, whatever it may be, is a more serious malady, inasmuch as it affects the mind. The cretin is an idiot—a melancholy spectacle—a creature who may almost be said to rank a step below a human being. There is a vacancy in his countenance; his head is disproportionately large; his limbs are stunted or crippled; he cannot articulate his words with distinctness; and there is scarcely any work which he is capable of executing. He spends his days basking in the sun, and from its warmth appears to derive great gratification. When a stranger appears, he becomes a clamorous and importunate beggar, assailing him with a ceaseless chattering; and the traveller is commonly glad to be rid of his hideous presence at the expense of a few sous. Cretins however are now either diminished in number or are confined, and the traveller is not pestered by them as he used to be. At times the disease has such an effect on the mind that the sufferer is unable to find his way home when within a few feet of his own door.

Various theories have been resorted to, to account for goître: some have attributed it to the use of water derived from melting snow; others, to the habit of carrying heavy weights on the head; others, again, to filthy habits; while a fourth theory derives it from the nature of the soil, or the use of spring-water impregnated with calcareous matter.

As the goître occurs in Derbyshire, Yorkshire (especially at Settle, in the

limestone district of Craven), Notts, Somerset, Surrey, Hants, &c., where no permanent snow exists, and no rivers spring from glaciers—also in Sumatra, and in parts of South America, where snow is unknown—and last, but not least, as no one ever drinks snow-water, which is always dirty, it is evident that the first cause assigned is not the true one; as for the second and third, they would equally tend to produce goitre in the London porters, and in the inhabitants of the purlieus of St. Giles's. If the limestone theory be true, all other rocks should be exempt from it, which is not the case, as far as our experience goes. Goitre is found only in certain valleys; nor, when it does occur, does it exist throughout the valley. It appears in one spot; higher up it is unknown, and in another situation, a mile or two distant, perhaps it is again prevalent. A curious example of this is afforded by the valley leading up to the Great St. Bernard. Goitre is unknown above Liddes; abounds at Verchères, 800 ft. lower down; and is almost universal at Orsières: had the disease depended upon the glacier-water, it would, of course, be more prevalent near to the glaciers, and in the upper part of the valley.

A careful attention to the circumstances accompanying its appearance will show that it is connected with the condition of the atmosphere, and is found in low, warm, and moist situations, at the bottom of valleys, where a stagnation of water occurs, and where the summer exhalations and autumnal fogs arising from it are not carried off by a free circulation of air;—that it is, in fact, one of the many injurious effects produced by malaria. It prevails in places where the valley is confined, and shut in, as it were—where a free draught is checked by the sides being clothed with wood, or by a sudden bend occurring in its direction—where, at the same time, the bottom is subject to the overflowings of a river, or to extensive artificial irrigation. The conjecture which derives the disease from breathing an atmosphere of this kind, not liable to be purified by fresh currents of air to carry off the vapours, is, perhaps, not undeserving of consideration and further investigation on the part of the learned.

Goitre usually occurs about the age of puberty. It becomes hereditary in a family, but children born and educated on spots distant from home, and in elevated situations, are often exempt from it. At Sion, in the Valais, which may be regarded as the head-quarters of goitre, children and even adults are often removed to the mountains from the low ground on the first symptoms of the malady, and the symptoms disappear where this is resorted to in time. Iodine has been applied with success as a remedy in some cases; but, as it is a dangerous remedy, the administration of it must be resorted to with the greatest caution.

The late Sir Astley Cooper, who in 1834 visited Martigny for the purpose of making observations upon goitres, considered them to be occasioned by the want of a due circulation of air; and he found the inhabitants of one side of a valley afflicted by them, while those on the other were quite free from them. (*L. S.* 1845.)

§ 19. HEIGHTS OF THE PRINCIPAL MOUNTAINS, LAKES, AND PASSES, ABOVE THE LEVEL OF THE SEA.

Taken principally from 'Peaks, Passes, and Glaciers,' in English feet.

MOUNTAINS.

	feet.		feet.
Gaurisankar or Deodunga (Nepal)	29,002	Schreckhorn	13,394
Aconcagua (Chile)	23,910	Bernina	13,297
Mount St. Elias (North America)	17,850	Weiss Mies	13,249
Pico de Teyde (Teneriffe) ..	12,205	Aiguille du Géant	13,101
Gross Glockner (Tyrol and Ca-		Grivola	13,003
rinthia)	12,956	Nesthorn	12,966
Mulhacen (Sierra Nevada) ..	11,664	Monte Viso	12,586
Marmolata (Italian Tyrol) (?)	11,500	Monte delle Disgrazie ..	12,060
Maladetta (Pyrenees) .. (?)	11,168	Blümlis Alp	12,041
Etna (Sicily)	10,872	Tödi	11,883
Ruska Poyano (Carpathians) ..	9,912	Roche Melon (Mont Cenis) ..	11,590
Schneehütten (Norway)	8,102	Titlis	10,634
Orüfa Jokull (Iceland)	6,200	Becca di Nona	10,385
Ben Nevis (Scotland)	4,406	Görner Grat	10,290
Snowdon (Wales)	3,590	Buet	10,206
Curran Tuhol (Ireland)	3,405	Torrenthorn	9,876
Mont Blanc	15,784	Äggischhorn	9,657
Monte Rosa	15,223	Sidelhorn	9,457
Dom (Mischabelhörner)	14,935	Cramont	9,040
Lyskamm	14,889	Faulhorn	8,812
Weisshorn	14,804	Breven	8,380
Matterhorn	14,705	Sentis	8,223
Dent Blanche	14,322	Niesen	7,765
Mont Combin (Graffeneire) ..	14,134	Pilatus	7,315
Finsteraar Horn	14,039	Flegère	6,105
Aletschhorn	13,803	Rigi	5,910
Jungfrau	13,671	Monte Generoso	5,561
Mont Pelvoux	13,468	Dole	5,520
		Salève	4,541
		Weissenstein	4,230

LAKES.

Schwartzer See	8,393	Bienne	1,410
Dauben See	7,244	Lucerne	1,406
Silser	6,000	Zug	1,400
Joux	3,210	Constance	1,385
Egeri	2,360	Zürich	1,310
Lungern	2,165	Orta	1,150
Brienz	1,781	Geneva	1,230
Thun	1,755	Lugano	937
Sarnen	1,715	Bourget	762
Morat	1,442	Como	692
Wallenstadt	1,420	Maggiore	680
Neuchâtel	1,420		

PASSES.

	feet.		feet.
Adler Pass	12,461	Col de Balme	7,550
Weiss Thor	11,851	Gemmi	7,540
Triftjoch	11,601	Grimsel	7,530
Col d' Erin	11,408	Sanetsch	7,367
Col du Géant	11,146	Joch	7,340
St. Théodule Pass	10,899	Kinzig Culm	7,280
Collon	10,333	Ober Alp	7,140
Strahleck	9,750	Bernardin	7,010
Moro	9,640	Splügen	6,940
Col de Ferret	8,409	Cenis	6,825
Col de la Seigne	8,247	St. Gothard	6,808
St. Bernard	8,200	Surenen	6,720
Col du Bonhomme	8,195	Wengern Alp	6,690
Furca	8,150	Simplon	6,636
Rawyl	7,960	Scheideck, Hasli	6,480
Nufenen	7,950	Lukmanier	6,340
Panixer	7,940	Maloya	6,060
Bernina	7,695	Dent de Jaman	4,855
Albula	7,680	Brünig	3,668
Julier	7,625	Unter Hauenstein	2,260
Susten	7,560		

ABBREVIATIONS, &c., EMPLOYED IN THE HANDBOOK.

The points of the compass (true, not magnetic) are marked by the letters N. S. E. W.

(*rt.*) right, (*l.*) left,—applied to the banks of a river. The right bank is that which lies on the right hand of a person whose back is turned towards the source, or to the quarter from which the current descends.

Distances are, as far as possible, reduced to English miles; when miles are mentioned, they may be understood to be English, and feet to be English feet.

Where there is a railway the distances at the head of the chapters are measured from the first station or terminus. On other roads the distances are measured from each place to the next place mentioned.

The names of Inns precede the description of every place (often in a parenthesis), because the first information needed by a traveller is where to lodge, and the best Inns are placed first.

Inns * is a mark of commendation; B. Bed; Br. Breakfast; D. Dinner.

Instead of designating a town by the vague words "large" or "small," the amount of the population, according to the latest census, is almost invariably stated, as presenting a more exact scale of the importance and size of the place.

In order to avoid repetition, the Routes are preceded by a chapter of preliminary information; and to facilitate reference to it, each division or paragraph is separately numbered.

Each Route is numbered with Arabic figures, corresponding with the figures attached to the Route on the Map, which thus serves as an Index to the Book; at the same time that it presents a *tolerably* exact view of the great and minor roads of Switzerland, and of the course of public conveyances.

MAPS AND PLANS.

The Map of Switzerland *at the end of Switzerland.*
 ——— Savoy and Piedmont *at the end of the Book.*

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LATEST INFORMATION.

Geneva.—Grand Hôtel de la Paix, Quai de Mont Blanc, best in situation, the only one facing the Mt. Blanc, kept by the former landlord of the Ecu; excellent.

Lake of Lucerne.—A magnificent carriage-road, the *Axenstrasse*, has been made along the E. shore of the Uri bay of the Lake of Lucerne, from Brunnen to Flüelen, where it joins the St. Gothard. It has been executed at the expense of the Confederation, for strategic purposes, and was a most difficult undertaking—cut or blasted in the face of precipices, or carried through tunnels for a great part of the way. It skirts the base of the Frohn Alpstock.

Stresa.—Hôtel des Îles Borromées, excellent, good cuisine, and fair charges.

Milan.—Hôtel Cavour, new, and very comfortable, on the Public Gardens.

Pontarlier.—*Inn:* Hôtel National the best, but far from good—dirty and disorderly. As Pontarlier lies on the shortest route from England to Switzerland, it is a pity there is no better halting-place here.

You may leave Paris by express train at 11 a.m.; dine and sleep at Dôle (H. Genève); start next morning at 9, and reach Neuchâtel at 3 p.m.

SECTION I.

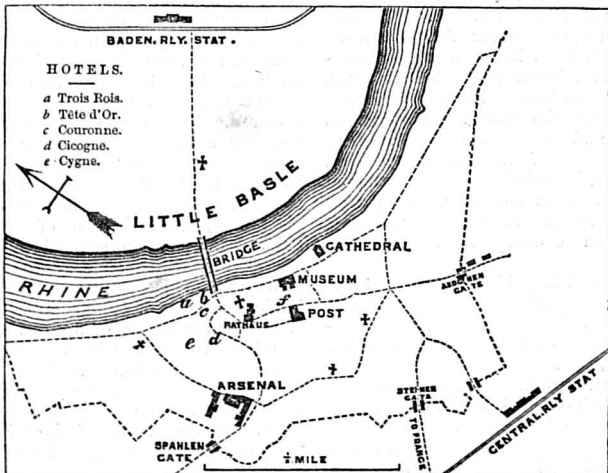
SWITZERLAND.

ROUTE 1.

BASLE TO BERNE, BY THE VAL MOUTIERS (MÜNSTER THAL) AND BIENNE. RAIL.

BASLE or **Bâle**. (Germ. Basel, Ital. Basilea.)—*Inns*: Trois Rois (Three Kings), an immense building, well situated on the Rhine; Tête d'Or and Couronne, both overlooking the Rhine; Cigogne and Cygne, both in the town; Schweitzer Hof, near the Cent. Rly. Stat.; Sauvage, commercial. Basler Hof, opposite stat. of Baden Rly., is also a restaurant. There is a good café adjoining the Trois Rois, which is available for persons not lodging in the hotel.

Basle is divided by the Rhine into Great Basle on the l. bank and Little Basle on the rt. bank, connected by a wooden bridge, 680 ft. long, partly on stone piers. Great Basle is situated on high, sloping banks, overlooking the Rhine, which rushes past in a full broad flood of a clear, light green; and the view from it is bounded by the hills of the Black Forest on the one side, of the Jura on the other. Its appearance is still that of an old German town, with high roofs and large houses. Great Basle and Little Basle, with a few miles of territory, form the half-canton called Basle-town. The town contains 37,918 Inhab. (9697



Roman Catholics); a large increase, for which it is indebted to its thriving trade and manufactory of ribands and paper; and it enjoys considerable prosperity from the residence of many rich merchants, bankers, and families of ancient descent, and from its position in an angle on the frontiers of France, Germany, and Switzerland, a few miles below the spot where the Rhine first becomes navigable. Out of 1,400,000 cwt. of merchandise to which the transit-trade of Switzerland amounted in 1860, Basle monopolised 296,230 cwt.; Geneva only 74,153 cwt.

A large proportion of travellers entering Switzerland pass through Basle, and it is now the town whence most of the Swiss railways diverge. Though most travellers rush hurriedly through, there are few towns better worth a day's halt.

Starting from the *Trois Rois*, and turning to the l., we soon come to the bridge; continuing to the l., and ascending a narrow lane, in which is l. the very unpretending University, and rt. the *Musée* (see below), we come to

The *Cathedral*, or *Münster* (Sexton in a house opposite the W. door), on the high bank on the l. of the Rhine, above the bridge, distinguished by its 2 spires (about 220 ft. high), and by the deep-red colour of the sandstone of which it is built—a very picturesque and interesting edifice, though not of beautiful architecture. It was begun by the Empr. Henry II. in 1010, and consecrated 1019. The oldest part of the existing edifice, however, is probably not more ancient than the 12th century; and it was mostly rebuilt in the beginning of the 15th century after an earthquake.

The building is a mixture of the Romanesque and Pointed styles. The W. front, with its towers, its equestrian statues of St. George and St. Martin, and other almost grotesque carvings, is picturesque and striking. The porch of St. Gallus in the N. transept (of the 13th centy.) is decorated with statues of Christ and St. Peter, and of the wise and foolish virgins.

The interior was in 1857 restored, apparently with great care and fidelity, and is very well worth a visit. The very large organ at the W. end was built, 1858. It is occasionally played from 6 to 7 P.M., adm. 1 fr. The pulpit (1324-1486) is of one piece of stone, and an elaborate piece of work. The modern stained-glass windows from Zurich, St. Gall, and the stained-glass institution of Munich, are not very successful. There is a curious font (1465). The choir, with its four remarkable columns, is raised to make room for the crypt. In the choir is the tomb of the Empress Anne (1281), and round the nave, on the N. side, are many other ancient tombs of noble and royal persons; also one or two quaint stone carvings let into the wall, particularly one of St. Vincent. Against a pillar is the monument of Erasmus. In the crypt are many other tombs, mostly of the aristocratic families of Basle, and also the coffins of six of the family of Baden Durlach. A staircase, leading out of the choir, conducts into a small apartment—the Chapter-house, or *Concilium's Saal*—in which some of the meetings of the Council of Basle, or rather of its committees, were held between 1436 and 1444. It is a low room, with 4 Gothic windows—distinguished not only in an historical point of view, but also as being quite unaltered since the day of the Council, except the ceiling, which has been restored. It is now a museum, and contains a number of plaster casts, some pieces of old furniture said to have belonged to Erasmus, and the six remaining fresco fragments of the original Dance of Death, painted in 1409, in remembrance of the plague, which once adorned the walls of the Dominican Church in Basle, and a set of coloured drawings of the whole series of figures. The Dance of Death has been attributed without cause to Holbein, since it existed at the time of the Council of Basle, at least 50 years before his birth. On the S. side of the Church are very extensive and picturesque *Cloisters*—a succession of quadrangles

and open halls—which, with the space they enclose, served for centuries as a burial-place, and are filled with interesting tombs; among which are the monuments of the 3 Reformers, *Æcolampadius* (Hausschein), *Grynæus*, and *Meyer*. The cloisters were constructed in the 14th centy., and extend to the verge of the hill overlooking the river. They may have been the favourite resort of *Erasmus*. *Bernouilli*, a native of Basle, is buried in *St. Peter's Church*, which contains many monuments of its wealthy citizens. *Æcolampadius* first preached the Reformation in *St. Martin's Church*.

Behind the Minster is a *Terrace*, called *Die Pfalz*, 75 ft. above the river, planted with chesnut trees, and commanding a beautiful view over the Rhine, the town, and the Black Forest hills, among them the *Blauen*. Close to it is the Club called *Lesegesellschaft*—including a reading-room, where 80 papers are taken in.

The Minster is situated in a square of considerable size—in one corner of which, in a recess, stands a building called “*zur Mücke*,” in which, during the Council of Basle, the Conclave met which elected *Felix V.* pope.

Returning towards the bridge, we come to the *New Museum* (open Sundays 10–12, Wednesdays 2–4; at other times 1 fr. admittance), a handsome building, containing *Paintings and Drawings by the younger Holbein*—a highly interesting collection, including the *Passion of Christ*, in 8 compartments, full of life, and carefully finished; also 8 sepia drawings of the same subject;—a dead *Christ*, formerly in the Minster; *Holbein's Wife and Children*, with countenances full of grief and misery (1526), a very remarkable work, from its perfect truth to nature; portraits of *Erasmus*, of *Froben* the printer, excellent—of a *Mlle. von Offenburg*, inscribed “*Lais Corinthiaca*,” very good; the same lady as *Venus* with *Cupid*; two representations of a *School*, painted by *Holbein* at the age of 14, and hung up as a sign over a schoolmaster's door in the town of Basle. Among the *Drawings* are *Holbein's* own portrait—

a work of the very highest excellence; heads of the family *Meyer*, sketched for the celebrated picture now in the *Dresden Gallery*, a beautiful pen and ink drawing; original sketch for the picture of the family of *Sir Thomas More*—the names of the different personages are written on their dresses; 5 sketches for the frescoes which formerly decorated the *Rathaus* in Basle, with one or two fragments of the frescoes themselves; sketches in ink for glass windows, for the sheaths of daggers, for the organ in the Minster; the *Costumes of Basle*; 83 marginal caricatures made on a copy of *Erasmus' Laus Stultitiæ*, which so amused the author when shown to him, that he is said to have laughed himself out of a fit of illness, &c. &c. *Holbein** was born at *Augsburg* in 1489, and removed about 1517 to Basle: his circumstances were by no means prosperous; he was even reduced to work as a day-labourer and house-painter, and painted the outer walls of the houses of the town. It is related of him that, being employed to decorate the shop of an apothecary, who was intent on keeping the young artist close at his work, and being disposed to repair to a neighbouring wine-shop, he painted a pair of legs so exactly like his own, and so well foreshortened, on the under side of the scaffolding, that the apothecary, seated below, believed him to be constantly present and diligently employed. *Erasmus*, writing from Basle a letter of introduction for the painter to one of his friends, complains that “*hic frigent artes*,” and the want of encouragement drove *Holbein* to seek his fortune in England, where he met with high patronage, as is well known. Yet the city showed its esteem for his talents by granting him a salary of 50 gulden per annum, which was paid him even when in England. Here are also some curious paintings of an artist of Berne named *Manuel* (1484—1530): portraits of *Luther* and his wife, by *L. Cranach*; of *Zwingli*; also some good pictures

* See *Kugler's 'Handbook of Painting,'* vol. ii., German School.

by old Dutch masters presented to the Museum.

Here also are deposited some antiquities, bronzes, fragments of pottery, coins, &c., from Augst, the site of the Roman *Augusta Rauracorum*, 7 miles from Basle (see Rte. 7). A silken embroidered banner, given by Pope Julius II. (1515) to the Bâlois; some old church plate—part of the Dom-Schatz—a silver cup of open work is the oldest piece (13th cent.); St. Anne with the Virgin and Child; and a relic-box with reliefs, 13th century, deserve notice.

The same building contains the *Public Library* of 80,000 volumes (4000 MSS.)—among them, the Acts of the Council of Basle, 3 vols., with chains attached to the binding, many very important MSS., of which there is a good catalogue, and a few of the books of Erasmus; also, a copy of his 'Praise of Folly,' with marginal illustrations by the pen of *Holbein*. There are autographs of Luther, Melancthon, Erasmus, and Zuinglius. Those who wish to see the library should apply early, as the librarian is usually absent in the afternoon.

The *University* of Basle, in a poor building, nearly opposite to the Musée, founded 1460, was the first great seminary for the advancement of learning established in Switzerland: it enjoyed a high reputation under Erasmus, and numbered among its professors in more recent times the names of Euler and Bernouilli, the mathematicians, who were natives of Basle. Schönbein, the discoverer of gun-cotton and of ozone, is a professor.

Returning to the bridge, and then keeping along a new street to the l., we come to the *Fischmarkt*, a small square with a Gothic fountain. Taking another street from the opposite corner, we come to

The *Rathhaus*, in the Market-place, a building of pleasing Gothic architecture, founded 1508. The exterior is painted in a manner which is perhaps not in accordance with the strict canons of art, but produces a very picturesque effect. The frieze displays the emblazoned shields of the

original cantons. The armorial bearing of canton Basle is said to be meant to represent the case of a cross-bow. Ascending the old staircase rt. are some ancient and almost unaltered rooms now employed as offices, and l. is the Great Council-Room (*Stadt-Rath-Saal*) ornamented on the walls and roof with humorous reliefs carved in wood by *Mat. Giger* (1609). The painted glass of the windows—coats of arms of 12 of the Swiss cantons, with supporters. At the foot of the stairs is placed a statue of Munatius Plancus, the founder, according to tradition, of Basle and of the Roman colony of Augst.

Continuing along the same street (*Freie Strasse*) rt., is the Post Office, a very ancient building, formerly the custom-house, with a new front. Passing through it, and observing the back, we see opposite, up a courtyard, a picturesque old building, the *Schmieder Zunft*, or Smith's Hall; and in the same street is another old hall, the *Gartneren Zunft*; and in the town are many other old halls of the guilds or *Zunfts*, dating usually from the 16th cent., and almost unaltered. The interiors are well worth a visit from an antiquarian, and the attendants are glad to show them for a few sous.

Not very far off towards the W. part of the town is the *Arsenal*, which contains a limited collection of ancient armour, of which the only curiosities are a suit of chain mail, once gilt, with plate mail beneath it, worn by Charles the Bold at the battle of Nancy; two Burgundian cannon, of iron bars bound round with hoops, and several suits of Burgundian and Armagnac armour.

A little way from the Arsenal are some very ancient corn stores, and beyond them the fountain called *Spaltenbrunnen*, copied from a design of Holbein or Albert Dürer, and of elegant workmanship. Beyond this is the *Spalenthor*, i.e. *St. Paulusthor* (1400), which retains its advanced work or *Barbican*, similar to those which formerly existed at York, and, with its double portcullis and two flanking towers, is particularly picturesque.

The other gates and the ramparts have been levelled. *St. Elizabeth* is a modern Gothic church (1863).

English Church service in St. Martin's church (1863), but it is given up in winter.

Physician, Dr. Jung.

The terraced *Garden of M. Vischer*, an eminent banker, overlooking the Rhine, is a very pretty spot.

Besides the *Zunft*s already mentioned, Basle abounds in houses and other buildings of the 16th and 17th centuries, full of interest to the lover of antiquity or of the picturesque.

Erasmus resided in the house *Zum Luft*, and Frobenius printed in it one of the first Bibles. The building called *Kirschgarten* was erected by the father of the distinguished African traveller, *Burchhardt*, who was born here.

A handsome new *Hospital* has been built on the site of the palace of the Markgraves of Baden.

The riband manufactory of M. de Barri at St. Jacques deserves a visit.

Down to 1798 the clocks of Basle went an hour in advance of those in other places of Europe. This singular custom, according to tradition, arose from a conspiracy to deliver the town to an enemy at midnight having been defeated by the clock striking 1 instead of 12.

The ancient sumptuary laws of Basle were singular and severe. On Sunday all were obliged to dress in black to go to church; even now no carriage may enter or quit the town during the hours of *morning* service. Females could not have their hair dressed by men; carriages were not permitted in the town after 10 at night, and it was forbidden to place a footman behind a carriage. The official censors, called *Unzichterherrn*, had the control of the number of dishes and wines to be allowed at a dinner party; and their authority was supreme on all that related to the cut and quality of clothes. At one time they waged desperate war against slashed doublets and hose.

Since the Reformation, Basle has been regarded as the stronghold of Methodism in Switzerland.

The spirit of trade, however, went hand in hand with that of religion—and Basle has been called a city of usurers; 5 per cent. was styled a "Christian usance" (einen Christlichen Zins), and a proclamation of the magistrates (1682-84) denounced those who lent money at a discount of 4 or 3½ per cent., as "selfish, avaricious, and dangerous persons;" those who lent their capital at a lower rate were liable to have it confiscated, because, forsooth, such persons, "by their avarice, did irremediable injury to churches, hospitals, church property, &c., and are the ruin of poor widows and orphans."

Like many other Swiss towns, Basle is much indebted to the liberality of its citizens, who continually bestow magnificent gifts and legacies for the public benefit. The Cathedral has been restored, and the Museum built and endowed by private means alone.

Basle was for many centuries an Imperial German town, governed by its bishops, under whom it appears to have flourished. It joined the Swiss confederation in 1501; and after severe struggles its bishops were expelled. The government then fell into the hands of the aristocratic burghers, whose authority was destroyed in 1798, partially restored in 1814, and again destroyed in 1848.

The dissensions which broke out soon after the Revolution of 1830 between the inhabitants of the town of Basle and those of the country, led to a civil war between the parties, and a bloody contest near Liesthal occasioned the Swiss Diet, in 1832, to pass an act for the formal separation of the canton into two parts, called Basle Ville and Basle Campagne. Basle Ville, however, refused to submit, and attacked the Campagne with 1600 men, of whom 400 were left on the field of battle, Aug. 1833. The diet then occupied the whole canton, and a final separation was made. Basle Campagne consists of two-thirds of the territory of the whole canton, and has for its capital Liesthal.

Reading-room—Schweighauser's, kept by Mr. Ludwig, opposite the Three

Kings, where newspapers of all countries may be read, and Guide-books, maps, and views obtained.

There is very good trout and grayling fishing in the Birs, and also in the Wiese, about 3 m. from Basle, on the rt. bank of the Rhine.

Railways.—CENTRAL. A.—Express to Paris in 13 hrs. 40 min. (Paris time is 22 min. behind Basle time. Swiss money is not taken.) B. *Swiss lines.* BADEN terminus for Baden and Schaffhausen.

Environs.—About 2 m. out of the town, just within the French frontier, is *Hünigen*, the great establishment for pisciculture. 21,600,000 impregnated eggs were distributed by its agencies during 1860-2. It is close to the stat. of St. Louis. At *St. Crischna*, conspicuously placed on a hill about 4 m. from Basle, is an interesting missionary establishment.

The salt-works of Schweitzerhall are 3 m. E. of the town. They were established by the Baron von Glenck of Gotha, who began a series of borings in 1821 to reach the bed which extends below the cantons of Argovia, Schaffhausen, Berne, and even Vallais. He was successful in 1835, and has a concession of the beds for 70 years on paying a tax of one-tenth of the raw produce, and supplying the canton at the rate of 2 fr. 70 c. the cwt. The total produce is 207,000 cwt.

Basle to Berne by the Münster Thal.

Post-road, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ posts, = 81 $\frac{1}{2}$ Eng. m.

	Posts.	Eng. m.
Basle.		
Lauffen . . .	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	= 16 $\frac{1}{2}$
Délémont . . .	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	= 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Münster . . .	$\frac{1}{2}$	= 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Malleray . . .	$\frac{1}{2}$	= 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sonceboz . . .	$\frac{1}{2}$	= 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bienne . . .	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	= 10
Berne, Rail. . .		20

This road will still be taken, at least as far as Bienne, by those who wish to see the beautiful Val de Moutiers. With a voiturier the journey to Berne occupies 2 days, stopping the first night at one of the good inns of Malleray or Tavannes.

Diligence daily to Bienne.

The valley of the Birs, commonly called the *Val Moutiers* (*Münster Thal*, in Germ.), through which this excellent road passes, is one of the most romantic in the Jura. It consists of a series of narrow and rocky defiles, alternating with open basins, covered with black forests above, and verdant meadows below, enlivened by villages, mills, and forges. A road was originally carried through the Val Moutiers by the Romans, to keep up the communication between Aventicum (Rte. 45), the Helvetian capital, and August (Rte. 7), their great fortified outpost on the Rhine. As long as it runs through Basle Campagne, *i. e.* for 4 or 5 m., it passes dirty villages and mean houses.

At *St. Jacob*, $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from Basle, in the angle between two roads, a small Gothic cross has been erected, to commemorate the battle of *St. Jacob* (1444).

Four miles farther, near *Reinach*, on the opposite bank of the Birs, is another battle-field—that of *Dornach*—where the Swiss gained a victory over a much larger Austrian force in 1499, during the Suabian war. The bone-house, near the Capuchin convent, is filled with skulls gathered from the field. In the church of the village

Maupertuis the mathematician (d. 1759) is buried. A monument, set up to his memory by his friend Bernoulli, was destroyed by the curé of the village, who was in the habit of repairing his hearthstone when broken, with slabs from the churchyard. It has been replaced by a fresh monument at the expense of canton Soleure.

Beyond *Aesch* the road enters *l'Evêché*, that part of the canton Berne which anciently belonged to the Prince Bishop of Basle; the valley contracts, increasing in picturesque beauty as you advance. To l. a road by Passwang to Ballsthal (Rte. 2). The castles of *Angenstein* and *Zwingen* are passed before reaching

Lauffen,—a curious, old, and dirty walled village. Inn, Sonne.

Soyhière (Germ. *Saugern*)—a village prettily situated, with a small country Inn (*Croix Blanche*), tolerably good. Here is the division of languages: part of the inhabitants speak German, part French.

The *Hôtel de Bellerive*, 3½ hrs. from Basle, good, moderate, and highly recommended as a good halting-place: mineral baths.

Bellerive.—Here resides M. Quiquerez, the archæologist and historian of this portion of Switzerland. He has discovered a net of ancient roads which connected more than fifty places where he has found Celtic or Roman remains. Every defile appears to have had its military station. The most extensive camp is on Mt. Terrible, 4 m. S.E. of Porrentruy.

A contracted pass, the rocks of which on the rt. are surmounted by a convent, leads into the open basin of

Délémont (*Delsberg*) (Inn: Bear). [*Diligence* daily to Porrentruy (*Pruntrut*—Inn, Ours), passing round the base of Mount Terrible.] Fine view of the Jura and gorges of Moutiers. The bishop-princes of Basle had a palace here. It is unnecessary to pass through Délémont, as our road (for another route, see end of the present one) turns to the l., and, continuing by the side of the Birs, enters a defile higher, grander, and more wild than any that have preceded it. This is, properly

speaking, the commencement of the Val Moutiers. Rocky precipices overhang the road, and black forests of fir cover the mountains above. In the midst of it are the iron furnaces and forges of les Rondes, and, farther on, of

Courrendelin (Germ. *Rennendorf*. Inn: Hirsch), supplied with ore in the shape of small granulated red masses, varying from the size of a pea to that of a cherry, from the neighbouring mines. The rent by which the Jura has been cleft from top to bottom, so as to allow a passage for the Birs, exhibits marks of some great convulsion, by which the strata of limestone (*Jura-kalk*) have been thrown into a nearly vertical position, and appear like gigantic walls on each side of the road. The gorge terminates in another open basin, in the midst of which lies Moutiers. [The new road to the Weissenstein and Soleure branches off beyond the gorge, about 1 m. before reaching]

Moutiers Grandval, or *Münster*—(Inn: Krone)—a village of 1250 Inhab., named from a very ancient *Minster* of St. Germanus on the height, founded in the 7th century, and now fast falling to ruin. [There is a good car-road from Moutiers to the summit of the *Weissenstein* (Rte. 3), a distance of 10 m. (2 hrs.), up-hill nearly the whole way, but fit for the cars of the country, one of which, drawn by 2 horses, may be hired to go and return for 20 fr. It passes Grandval (*Grossau*) and Günsbrunnen. Diligence daily to Olten in 6¼ hrs., passing Günsbrunnen.]

At the upper end of the basin of Moutiers the road is conducted through another defile, equally grand, at the bottom of which the Birs foams and rushes, overhung by perpendicular cliffs and funereal firs. To this succeeds the little plain of Tavannes. Hence rough paths lead directly over the hills, a climb of 2000 ft. (2½ to 3½ hrs.) to Reuchenette, on the old high-road 6 m. from Bienne. They start from Court (Inn: Bär), Sorvillier, Bévilard, and Malleray. The view from the ridge resembles that from the Weissenstein. The highest point opposite Bévilard is 4370 ft.

Malleray (Lion d'Or, a good Inn; capital trout). Convenient sleeping-places on this journey either here or 3 m. further, at Dachselden, or

Tavannes (or Dachselden = badger's field) 2523 ft. (Inns: Couronne; Croix). The valley to the E. of Court, called Chaluat (Tschaywo), is inhabited by the descendants of the Anabaptists, expelled from Berne in 1708-11. They are distinguished by their industry and simple manners: the young men wear beards—they speak French. $\frac{3}{4}$ m. above Tavannes is the source of the Birs; before reaching it our road quits the valley, mounting up a steep ascent, in the middle of which it passes under the singular archway in the solid rock, called

Pierre Pertuis (Pertusa = bored through). Probably a natural opening, enlarged by art. It existed in the time of the Romans, as is proved by an inscription on the N. side:

NUMINI AUGUS

tor VM ———

VIA fa CTA PER.M—

DV rmi VM PATER num

IL. VIR um. COL HELVET —

It stood on the boundary line separating the people of the Rauraci, who extended to Bâle, from the Sequani. The archway is about 40 ft. high and 10 or 12 thick. The pass was fortified by the Austrians in 1813. Here is the watershed, 2834 ft., dividing the streams of the Birs from those of the Suze.

Sonceboz—(Inn: Couronne, good)—a village in the Val St. Imier (Germ. Erguel), up which runs a good road to Chaux de Fonds (Rte. 50), and out of which another branches S. to Neuchâtel from Villaret. The old road to Bienne passes the forges of *Reuchette*, 1942 ft., in the valley below, and descends the valley along the l. bank of the *Suze*, which forms several small cascades. The projecting rock of Rond Châtel was occupied in feudal times by a fort, and held by the powerful Bishops of Basle, to whom it gave the command of this pass. The View from the old road on the last

slope of the Jura, over Bienne and its lake, with St. Peter's Isle, and the district watered by the Aar, Emme, and Zihl, backed in clear weather by the snowy range of the Alps, from Mont Blanc to the Jungfrau, is exceedingly beautiful. On the bare limestone slope of the Jura, close to the road, are lying numbers of granite boulders. (See § 16.)

Bienne (German *Biel*) — Inns: *Couronne; H. du Jura; Croix Blanche. Bienne is prettily situated at the mouth of the valley of the Suze, at the foot of the Jura, here mantled with vines, and about a mile from the head of the lake of Bienne (Rte. 49). It is still surrounded by its ancient walls and watch-towers, and is approached by several shady avenues. The number of Inhab., chiefly Protestants, amounts to 6053. The town anciently belonged to the Bishop of Basle, but the citizens, early imbued with the spirit of freedom, formed a perpetual alliance with Berne in 1352, for the defence of their liberties, in revenge for which the town was burnt by their liege lord. The Reformation further weakened the connection between the town and its ecclesiastical ruler, and at the beginning of the 17th century his authority became nominal. Bienne is an industrious town, and well situated.

On the margin of the lake, at the outlet of the Thiele, stands Nydau (Inn: Bear).

[Those who have a taste for climbing may gratify it by ascending from hence the *Chasseral* (Gestler), one of the highest mountains of the Jura, 3616 ft. above the lake, and 4936 ft. above the sea, with the certainty of being rewarded with a magnificent view (Bernese Alps, rt. Mont Blanc, l. Pilatus and Rigi) if the weather be clear. There is a carriage-road as far as the village of Nodz, about 3 hrs.; thence a footpath, about 1 hr., to the top. You may descend to Neuville via Nodz.]

From Bienne, railway to Neuchâtel and Yverdon (Rte. 49), thence to Lausanne and to Geneva.

Railway to Berne by Soleure and Herzogenbuchsee to Basle.

The direct Rly. from Bienne to Berne (4 trains daily, $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 hrs.) crosses at Brügg Stat. the Zihl, which flows out of the Lake of B., at (rt.) Nydau; Inn, Bär. It next crosses the Aar by a lattice-bridge 800 ft. long, near Busswyl, and ascends its rt. bank to

Lyss Stat. [4 m. S. of this is

Aarberg (Inn: Krone), a town of 864 Inhab. on a rocky promontory, nearly surrounded by the Aar, which, indeed, at high water, actually converts it into an island. The road enters and quits the town by 2 covered bridges. View from the cemetery.]

Schüpfen Stat.

Münchenbuchsee Stat.

Zollikofen Junct. Stat. Here the rly. from Bienne (Rte. 1) falls in. A little N. of this lies

Hofwyl, long well known as the agricultural and educational institution of the late M. Fellenberg.

The surrounding district was little better than a bog when M. Fellenberg settled here in 1799; but he gradually brought it into cultivation; and an English agriculturist, who had been sent abroad to investigate the state of agriculture on the continent, reported that here alone he had seen really good ploughing.

The rly. leaves on rt. the picturesque peninsula of Enge, nearly surrounded by the Aar. At Tiefenau a lofty bridge of 3 arches, a noble structure, has been thrown over the river. Nearly opposite the N. extremity of the lofty and picturesque promontory called Enge, lies Reichenbach, which belonged to Rudolph of Erlach, the hero of the battle of Laupen, murdered here, in his old age, by his son-in-law, Jost von Rudenz, with the very sword which he had wielded at that glorious victory. The assassin was pursued, as he fled from the scene of his crime, by the two bloodhounds of the aged warrior, who broke loose at their master's cries. They tracked the murderer's footsteps of their own accord, and after some hours returned with gore-stained lips, and nothing more was heard or known of Jost von

Rudenz. Rudolph was buried at the neighbouring church of Bremgarten, where a stone in the N. wall of the chancel marks the spot.

[From Délémont to Tavannas, a more circuitous, but not less fine route, may be taken, along the valley of the Sorne, through Bassecourt. It passes the ironworks of Undervelier (2 hrs. 40 m.), built in a narrow gorge; then ascends through the gorges of Pichoux, in 2 hrs. to Bellelay. This was formerly a convent of Premonstrate monks, built in 1136, on a bleak tableland (3500 ft.); now converted into an excellent brewery and a glass manufactory. Cheese, called *têtes de moines*, are exported. Hence 1 hr. down to Tavannes.]

A bridge of ingenious construction over the Aar carries the rly. on the top, and the carriage-road on a second story, into

BERNE Terminus. (Rte. 24.)

ROUTE 3.

BASLE TO SOLEURE AND BIENNE, BY RAILWAY.—ASCENT OF THE WEISENSTEIN.

	Eng. m.
Basle.	
Liesthal	8
Laufelfingen	18
Olten	23
Herzogenbuchsee	40
Soleure	49
Bienne	63

As far as Aarburg the road is the same as in Rte. 4. Near Aarburg, which is a little beyond Olten, the road diverges and follows for some distance the rt. bank of the Aar: it then goes through a fertile but uninteresting country to

Herzogenbuchsee, Junct. Stat. (Railway Restaurant), a town of 4500 Inhab. Here our line leaves the

Berne line (Rte. 5), and turns W.; crossing the Grosse Emme. 5 m. to the rt., and in front, is seen the hotel on the Weissenstein. The Aar is crossed shortly before reaching

SOLEURE STAT. (Germ. Solothurn)—(Inns: Couronne, good and moderate; Cerf; La Tour), 1407 ft.—the capital of the canton, is prettily situated on the Aar, at the foot of the Jura range, and has 5370 Inhab. (200 Protestants). The max. discharge of the Aar is here 35,000 cub. ft. per second. In the middle of the 17th century it was surrounded by fortifications of great extent, which took 60 years to complete, and consumed vast sums of money. In 1835 the removal of these costly and useless works was decreed by the Great Council of the canton. It is on the whole a dull town with little trade and few manufactures, except lenses and mathematical instruments.

At the end of the principal street, approached by a flight of steps, flanked by fountains representing Moses striking the rock, and Gideon wringing the dew from the fleece, stands the *Cathedral of St. Ursus* (a soldier of the Theban legion), a modern building, finished 1773, by an Italian, Pesoni, of Ancona; it is distinguished by its size, and on the whole handsome.

The *clock tower* (Zeitglockenthurm), in the market-place (a continuation of the same street), is stated by the guide-books to be a Roman work, while a German inscription upon it attributes its foundation to a period 500 years earlier than the birth of Christ; it may owe its origin to the Burgundian kings. It is square in form, and constructed of the most solid masonry, rough outside, originally without window or other opening, for 80 feet. If we are to believe the two Latin verses on the front of this building, Soleure is the most ancient city in N.W. Europe except Treves:

In Celtis nihil est Solodoro antiquius, unis
Exceptis Trevisis, quorum ego dicta soror.

The *Arsenal* (Zeughaus), a gable-fronted house (d. 1580), not far from the Cathedral, contains the most extensive and curious collection of ancient armour in Switzerland. Here are shown numerous standards, taken by the Swiss in their victories over the Burgundians and Austrians, at Sempach, Morat, Nancy (bearing the portrait of Charles the Bold—with St. George and the Dragon), and Grandson. Some of these, in order to preserve them, have been fastened to pieces of coarse canvas; the yellow flag with the Austrian eagle was brought from Dornach. Among 800 suits of armour are many French and Burgundian. There are a few suits of chain mail, and a great many of commoner sort worn by Lanzknechts. More than 100 heads are said to have fallen under an *executioner's sword* here preserved. Several specimens of wall pieces, or long swivels, for the defence of a fortress, are curious. Some of the armour is for sale.

The *Museum*, in the Waisenhaus, close to the bridge over the Aar, contains the finest collection of Jura fossils in existence—15,000 specimens, chiefly from quarries near Soleure, which will be viewed with great interest by the geologist. There are nearly thirty specimens of fossil turtle, rarely found elsewhere, together with teeth and palates of fish, and numerous fragments of saurians, derived from a formation which is believed to correspond with the Portland stone of England. The jaws of mammalia are said to come from the same locality (?). A suite of specimens of the rocks of the Alps were collected in numerous journeys by Professor Hugi, to whom belongs the merit of forming and arranging this cabinet.

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Basle lives here. The clergy are numerous and powerful, both in the town and canton. There are several convents at Soleure. The sisters of *St. Joseph's Nunnery*, outside the Berne gate, make artificial flowers, sweetmeats, and other articles, which they sell at the grating. Their pincushions are

clumsy, and themselves not very interesting.

Soleure was long the head-quarters for enlisting Swiss recruits in the foreign service of France, Spain, the Pope, and Naples, in which countries a body-guard of Swiss was always maintained. The town of Soleure was an ancient Imperial city, but had been long allied to Berne, and in 1481 became, with its surrounding country, a Swiss canton. Until 1793 the government of Soleure was the closest and the worst of the Swiss governments. The old government was partially restored in 1814, but completely altered and rendered democratic in 1831.

Thaddeus Kosciuszko, the Pole, spent the last years of his life here; his house, where he died, is near the Post-office, No. 5, Gurzelen-gasse. His entrails are interred in the churchyard of Zuchwyl, 1 m. E. of Soleure, under a monument inscribed "*Viscera Thaddei Kosciuszko.*"

At Bieberist, 2 m. S.E. of Soleure, on the Gross Emmen, is a large paper manufactory. The ironworks of Gerlafingen are 1 m. farther.

About 2 miles N.E. of Soleure, beyond the village of St. Nicholas, lies the *Hermitage of St. Verena*, at the end of a pretty valley, hemmed in by rocks of gneiss embowered in trees, and traversed by a sparkling rivulet. It is reached by paths, originally formed by the French émigrés, who, at the outbreak of the French Revolution, sought an asylum here. The valley abounds in caves and grottoes, partly natural, partly artificial, and at its further extremity, within a natural shelf of over-arching cliff, stands the little *Chapel of St. Verena*; behind the altar a small cave has been cut in the rock, and now contains a representation of the holy sepulchre. This saint, a pious maiden who accompanied the Theban legion, suffered severe temptation in this solitude, according to the legend, from the devil, who, on one occasion, was on the point of carrying her off, when she saved herself by clinging fast to the rock, where the hole made by her finger-nails still

remains. On the way to the hermitage, near St. Nicholas, is the *Château of Waldegy*; its old-fashioned gardens, laid out in terraces, are worth notice.

[*The Weissenstein.*—The most interesting excursion in the neighbourhood of Soleure is that to the summit of the Weissenstein (3 hrs., 8 m.) (Whiterock, so named from its white cliffs of limestone), the mountain immediately behind the town. It is accessible to charrs-à-banc, by a road somewhat steep, passing through the villages Langendorf and Oberdorf, behind which it is carried up the face of the mountains in a series of zig-zags. Pedestrians may find a short cut, and reach the top easily in 2½ hrs. (guide or porter 5 fr.; 3 more if he is detained for the night); they may visit the Hermitage of St. Verena in their way to or fro.

An *Hotel and Bath-house* has been built at the expense of the town on the brow of the mountain, 3950 ft., and 2640 above the Aar at Soleure. It furnishes about 30 beds, and the accommodation, though homely, is good. Pension 6 fr. It is rented by the landlord of the Couronne at Soleure.

The dairy of the establishment is supplied by 60 cows, fed on the pasture on the summit of the mountains, so that milk and cream may be had here in perfection.

Many invalids take up their residence here during the summer months, on account of the fresh air, or for the "cure de petit lait" (goats' whey), &c., which is recommended in certain complaints.

The greater portion of visitors, however, resort hither merely on account of the view, remaining on the summit one night to enjoy the sunset and sunrise.

The Inn of the Weissenstein, and the still more elevated summit of the mountain, called Hasematte, 1½ hour's walk from the Inn, to the W. of it, command one of the finest distant prospects of the Alps which can be named. The great chain of snowy peaks, &c., here seen, spread out along the horizon, extends for a distance of 200 miles, from the Sentis

on the E., to Mont Blanc in the S.W. Immediately in front rise the Jungfrau, Schreckhorn, and other giants of the Bernese chain. In the foreground, amidst a varied expanse of wooded hill and verdant vale, are the lakes of Morat, Neuchâtel, and Bienne, while the silvery Aar, on which stands the town of Soleure, winds like a snake at the foot of the mountain. See Keller's panorama at the inn.

Another road, quite practicable for a char-à-banc, descends the opposite (N.) side of the Weissenstein, into the Val Montiers (Rte. 1).]

After Soleure the railroad runs by the side of the Aar, and along the S. base of the Jura. The inn on the top of the Weissenstein continues long a conspicuous object.

On the rt. lie the Baths of Grange (Grenchen), a large building.

Bözingen (Boujean), on the river Suze, has ironworks of repute belonging to M. Bläsch.

Bienne Terminus.

ROUTE 4.

BASLE TO LUCERNE, BY THE CENTRAL SWISS RAILWAY.

	Eng. m.
Liesthal	8
Laufelfingen	18
Olten	23
Sursee	41
Lucerne	56

The Central Swiss Railway starts from Basle (stat. near the Äschen Thor, a mile from the bridge), and traverses the Jura, through very beautiful scenery, to Olten; whence its branches diverge to Berne, Lucerne, Zürich, and Bienne. The works on this line were executed by the English engineer Brassey.

The rly., on quitting Basle, crosses the valley of the Birs on a lattice bridge of 3 arches, a little N. of the battlefield of St. Jacob, where, in 1444, 1600 Swiss had the boldness to attack, and the courage to withstand for 10 hrs., a French army tenfold more numerous, commanded by the Dauphin, afterwards Louis XI. Only 10 of the Swiss escaped alive, the rest were left dead on the field, along with thrice their own number of foes, whom they had slain. This almost incredible exploit spread abroad through Europe the fame of Swiss valour; and Louis, the Dauphin, wisely seeing that it was better to gain them as friends than to oppose them as enemies, courted their alliance, and first enrolled them as a permanent body-guard about his person—a practice continued by the French monarchs down to Charles X. The Swiss themselves refer to the battle of St. Jacob as the Thermopylæ of their history. The vineyards near the field produce a red wine, called Schweitzer Blut (Swiss blood). A little beyond this place the men of Basle were in 1833 drawn into an ambushade by the men of Liesthal and defeated with considerable slaughter. The rly. continues for some miles along the flat land of the Rhine valley, then leaving

it, turns to the rt. up the valley of the little river Ergolz.

Liesthal Stat. (*Inns* not good : Falke; Schlüssel) was always opposed to its subjection to Basle, and was finally separated from Basle in 1833 (see p. 5). It is a dirty, uninteresting town of 2170 Inhab., and since the separation has become the seat of government of Basle Campagne, which includes 53 parishes, with about 36,000 Inhab. In the Council-house (Rathstube) are curious paintings and sentences on the walls, and Charles the Bold's cup taken at Nancy.

After leaving Liesthal the rly. fairly enters a mountain valley, and follows the curves of the stream. The scenery is very pretty; in the bottom are bright green meadows, dotted with white houses; on the sides of the hills are fir and beech forests, and above, limestone cliffs may occasionally be seen.

Sissach Stat. The Rly. now ascends the valley by a gradient of 1 in 20, and several side valleys are crossed on bridges, the line constantly rising until it looks down upon the village of

Bukten Stat. (*Inn*: Halb Mond), beyond which is a tunnel 900 ft. long; l. rise the picturesque ruins of the Castle of *Homburg*, the scenery becoming wilder and more picturesque, and the mountains higher.

Laufelfingen Stat. Close to this the formidable tunnel under the Unter-Hauenstein is entered. This tunnel is 2700 yards long, and was 3 years in progress, and at one accident in 1857 50 men were buried alive and lost. This pass has always been of great importance as an outlet for the merchandise of Switzerland, and as the most direct line of communication from W. Germany to Italy by the St. Gothard. The old road ascended to the head of the pass by a series of zigzags, descending in a similar manner on the other side, and commands a *view of the great chain of the Alps, which is lost to the traveller by the rly. Those who would not miss the view will quit the train at Laufelfingen, walk over the moun-

tain (*Inn* at the summit), and rejoin the rail at Olten.

On emerging from the tunnel we enter the pretty valley of *Trimlach*; green fields and white houses below, fir woods above, and limestone rocks and cliffs occasionally protruding, with a distant view of the Appenzell mountains. Soon afterwards we open into a wider valley, and, looking over Olten, in clear weather the first view of the *Bernese Alps* is obtained. The rly. here makes a curve of more than half a circle, and, crossing the river Aar, reaches

Olten Junc. Stat. (*Inns*: H. von Arx, close to stat.; Krone), a town very prettily situated in a valley of the Jura, said to be the Roman *Ultimum*. The old parish church, converted into a wood-house since the new church was built, is mentioned as early as 1240. Here are the ironworks of the Central Rly. Frequent omnibuses to *Frohburg*, a watering-place with whey baths. At Olten the rly. to Zürich diverges, and passengers for Berne, Lucerne, or Bienne, change carriages. The rly. then goes through a pass between the hills and makes a circuit round.

Aarburg Stat. (*Inns*: Bär; Krone), a neat town of 1500 Inhab., almost entirely rebuilt since a conflagration in 1840. It is distinguished by its extensive *Citadel* on the heights above, constructed in 1660; the only fortress belonging to the Swiss Confederation, but of no use as a fortification, for, although it has bomb-proof casemates hewn out of the rock, its works have been allowed to go to decay. It serves as a military storehouse for the Swiss Confederation, and forms a picturesque object in the landscape, such as is met with in the background of old German pictures. Outside the town is an extensive cotton factory, and a suspension wire bridge over the Aar.

Here the railway branches off to Berne (Rte. 5) and to Soleure (Rte. 3), though the carriages are changed at Olten.

The railroad continues along a pretty valley, distinguished by its verdant pastures, and its substantial look-

inghouses, many of them with gardens, whose walls are often covered with thin plates of wood overlapping each other like fishes' scales. It is bordered by a varied outline of wooded heights. In front, the snowy Alps.

Zoffingen Stat.—*Inns*: Cheval Blanc (Rössli), Ochs—a town with 3172 Inhab. Its *Library* contains autograph letters of Swiss reformers, and drawings by members of the Swiss Society of Artists. Near the Schützenhaus are some magnificent lime-trees. A fragment of the castle of Reiden, and a solitary tree perched on a rock beside it, become conspicuous before reaching

Reiden Stat. The Parsonage was originally the house of the Knights of Malta.

Dagmersellen Stat. *Inn*: Lion, kept by A. Bühler, good and clean.

Nebikon Stat. Between here and *Wauwil* a good view, rt. of the snow mts. of the Oberland. The Jungfrau is in the centre: the Mönch and Eiger to its l., the Altels to its rt.

Wauwil Stat.

Sursee Stat.—(*Inns*: Soleil; Hirsch; both bad and dear)—an old walled town, whose gate-towers still bear the double-headed eagle of Austria carved in stone. "The traveller may well enjoy a few moments in examining the *Rathhaus*, much dilapidated, but affording a good specimen of the peculiarities of the German-Burgundian style. The general outline resembles the old Tolbooth of Edinburgh."—*Sursee* is 1 m. from the N. end of the Lake of Sempach, which has no pretensions to great beauty, but is pleasing, and highly interesting historically, from the *Battle of Sempach* (1386)—the second of those great and surprising victories by which Swiss independence was established. It was fought on the E. shore of the lake, behind the little town of Sempach, opposite which the lake comes into full view from our road. In 1805 a portion of the water of the lake was let off, in order to gain land along its banks; thus its extent is diminished, its surface lowered, and its form somewhat altered from what it was at the time of the

battle. The rly. runs along its W. shore. Views of Pilatus and Rigi.

Sempach Stat. About 2 m. from the rly. stat. is the town of Sempach (*Inns*: Kreutz; Adler); and 2 m. farther is a small chapel, erected to commemorate the victory, on the spot where Leopold of Austria (son of the Duke of the same name who had been defeated 71 years before at Morgarten) lost his life. The names of those who fell, both Austrians and Swiss, were inscribed on the walls, which also bear a rude fresco representation of the noble devotion of *Arnold of Winkelried*—

He of battle-martyrs chief!
Who, to recall his daunted peers,
For victory shaped an open space,
By gath'ring, with a wide embrace,
Into his single heart, a sheaf
Of fatal Austrian spears.—*Wordsworth*.

He was a knight of Unterwalden, who, observing all the efforts of the Swiss to break the ranks of their enemies foiled by their long lances, exclaimed, "Protect my wife and children, and I will open a path to freedom." He then rushed forward, and gathering in his arms as many lances as he could grasp, buried them in his bosom. The confederates were enabled to take advantage of the gap thus formed in the mail-clad ranks of the foe, before the Austrian lancers had time to extricate their entangled weapons from his body. In order to oppose the Swiss, who fought on foot, many of the Austrian nobles had dismounted to form a serried phalanx; but the armour which rendered them almost invulnerable on horseback, and which, while they remained united and in close column, had formed so impenetrable a barrier to the attack of the Swiss, now that their ranks were broken, disabled them from coping with their light-armed and active foes. 600 nobles were slain, and more than 2000 common soldiers; while the entire force of the Swiss, who achieved this victory, is said not to have exceeded 1400 men. The conquerors founded masses for the souls of those who fell, friends as well as foes, and they are celebrated even

now on the anniversary of the fight, which is a popular festival. Fine view of the Rigi and Pilatus from this part of the line.

At *Buttisholz*, a village about 3 m. W. of *Nothwyl Stat.*, and on the rt. of the road, may be seen a mound, called the *English barrow*, because it contains the bones of 3000 Free Companions, or *Guglers*, who had formerly served on the English side in the wars between England and France. They were engaged by *Enguerrand de Coucy*, son-in-law of *Edward III.* of England, to conquer the Austrian dominion, to which *De Coucy* had some claim through his mother. The King of France furnished him with the requisite money, in order to liberate France from the ravages of these Free Companions, who, while pillaging in the Swiss cantons, were attacked in detail and destroyed by the Swiss peasants in 1376. The action which took place here was between the peasants of *Entlibuch* and a body of these Free Companions.

The approach to *Lucerne* is charming: on the l. rises the *Rigi*, in shape somewhat resembling a horse's back; on the rt. the *Napf*, the end of a mountain chain, stands out boldly; in front the *Pilatus* is distinguished by its serrated ridge. After crossing the small stream of the *Emme*, we reach the banks of the green *Reuss*, rushing out of the lake of *Lucerne*. *Lucerne* is surrounded on this side by a battle-mented wall, flanked at intervals by a number of tall watchtowers, descending to the margin of the river.

LUCERNE. (Route 16.)

Station on S. side of the river. Steamers for *Wüggis*, *Fluellen*, &c., touch at it.

ROUTE 5.

BASLE TO BERNE, BY THE CENTRAL SWISS RAILWAY.

	Eng. m.
Basle.	
Liesthal	8
Laufelfingen	18
Olten	23
Herzogenbuchsee	40
Burgdorf	50
Berne	64

Trains in $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 hrs.

The road as far as *Aarburg* is described in *Rte. 4.* At *Aarburg*, a little beyond *Olten*, the road leaves the *Lucerne* line and turns to the S.W., keeping for some distance along the l. bank of the *Aar*; it then traverses a fertile but dull country to

Herzogenbuchsee Junct. Stat. (*Inn: Sonne*), a town of some 4500 Inhab.

Near *Riedtwyl Stat.* a verdant valley is entered, its slopes covered with luxuriant wood.

Burgdorf (French *Berthoud*).—(*Inns: Bear; Buffet* at the *Stat.*),—a thriving town (3500 Inhab.) of large arcaded houses, and opulent public institutions pleasantly situated at the mouth of the fertile *Emmenthal* (*Rte. 22*). In the old castle here *Pestalozzi* first established his school. Views of the *Jungfrau*, group of snow mts. from the ch., and a much more extensive one from the *Lueg*, 2 hrs. walk.

Hindelbank Stat.

In the church of *Hindelbank* are many monuments to the noble family of *Érlach*, and also the celebrated Monument of *Madame Langhans*, wife of the clergyman, who died in childhood. It is by a sculptor named *Nahl*, and represents her with her child in her arms, bursting through the tomb at the sound of the last trumpet. Its merit, as a work of art, has been much exaggerated. The epitaph was written by *Haller*. This tomb is formed of sandstone, and is let into the pavement of the church.

Beyond *Zollikofen Junct. Stat.* is *Ruete*, rt., an agricultural institution.

At *Wyler Feld* (a fine view l. of the

Bernese Alps) the rly. from Thun (Rte. 25) falls in.

The *Castle* of Reichenbach on the neighbouring height belongs to the Erlach family.

The Aar is crossed by a lofty bridge, having a passage for the rail above, and the carriage-road below, leading to

BERNE STAT. (Rte. 24).

ROUTE 6.

BASLE TO ZÜRICH—RAILWAY.

	Eng. m.
Basle.	
Liesthal.	8
Laufelfingen	18
Olten	23
Aarau	31
Brugg	42
Turgi Junction	44
Baden	47
Zürich	62

About 4 hrs. Take the l. side of the carriage up to Brugg; the rt. after.

The road as far as Olten is described in Rte. 4. At the *Olten* junction the Zürich branch turns E., keeping on the rt. bank of the Aar, to

Aarau—Inns: Wilder Mann (Savage), comfortable; Löwe; Krone; Rössli—the chief town of the canton Argovie, which was first included in the Confederation in 1803, having previously formed a subject province of canton Berne, contains 4500 Inhab., and is situated on the rt. bank of the Aar: Simond called it, in 1817, “an odious little place;” but it has much improved and increased since then. It lies at the S. base of the Jura, here partly covered with vineyards. There are many extensive cotton-mills here.

The *Rathhaus*, in which the cantonal councils are held, has been rebuilt. In the *parish church* Protestant and Catholic services are performed alternately.

Henry Zschokke, the historian and novel-writer, resided here until his death, 1848, in a pretty villa on a hill

on the l. bank of the Aar. When the armies of the French Revolution took possession of Switzerland in 1789, and destroyed its ancient form of government, Aarau was made for a short time capital of the Helvetic Republic.

There are several castles visible from the rly., the most conspicuous of which is that of *Wildeggen*, the residence of Col. d’Effinger.

Schintznach Stat. 1½ m. from the *Baths of Schintznach*, also called *Habsburger Bad*, the most frequented watering-place in Switzerland. The principal buildings are the *Hotel* (*Grosser Gasthof*) and *Bath-house*, in a semicircular form. 500 persons frequently sit down to dinner together in the season at the table-d’hôte. There are 160 rooms and 160 baths, all exactly alike, lined with Dutch tiles. Much attention is paid to the wants of the poor. There is accommodation for 90 persons both in baths and beds, and they are provided with these, as well as with medical attendance, free of all expense. There are funds, likewise, for their maintenance, which are increased by a poor-box carried round every Sunday by a lady and gentleman at the table-d’hôte. There are two resident physicians. The water is 60° Fahr.; it tastes strong of sulphur, Epsom and Glauber salts, by no means a palatable draught. The visitors are chiefly French—very few English; hence, though provisions are dear in this country, the table-d’hôte costs only 3 fr.—L. Fm. The waters are efficacious in cutaneous disorders, in rheumatism and gout, and for wounds. Schintznach owes little to nature except its waters. Some pretty walks have been made near the houses, and winding paths, under the shade of trees, lead up the hill to Habsburg.

Among the many *excursions* in the neighbourhood may be mentioned the ascent of the *Gisli-Fluh*, over which there is a pleasant walk to Aarau.

Brugg, or *Bruck—Inn*: Das Rössli. Rly. to Waldshut (Rte. 7) in progress. An ancient possession of the House of Habsburg, containing 800

Inhab. The exit and entrance to it are guarded by high conical roofed towers. The *Schwarze Thurm* (Black tower) is a Roman building of the age of the Lower Empire. Brugg is the birth-place of Zimmerman, physician of Frederick the Great, who wrote on Solitude.

The country around Brugg is interesting, both in a geographical and historical point of view. In the plain, a little below the town, three of the principal rivers of Switzerland which drain the N. slopes of the Alps, from the Grisons to the Jura, the Limmat, the Reuss, and the Aar, form a junction, and, united under the name of the Aar, throw themselves into the Rhine about 10 m. below Brugg, at a place called Coblenz.

Close upon this meeting of the waters, and on the triangular tongue of land between the Aar and Reuss, stood *Vindonissa*, the most important settlement of the Romans in Helvetia, as well as their strongest fortress on this frontier, on which they placed their chief dependence for maintaining this portion of their empire. Its works extended 12 m. from N. to S. Yet scarcely any portion of it now appears above ground; traces of an amphitheatre, a subterranean aqueduct, which conveyed water from Brauneggberg, 3 m. off, foundations of walls, broken pottery, inscriptions, and coins, have been turned up by the spade from time to time, and its name is preserved in that of the miserable little village of *Windisch*.

"Within the ancient walls of *Vindonissa*, the castle of Habsburg, the abbey of *Königsfeld*, and the town of *Bruck* have successively arisen. The philosophic traveller may compare the monuments of Roman conquests, of feudal or Austrian tyranny, of monkish superstition, and of industrious freedom. If he be truly a philosopher, he will applaud the merit and happiness of his own time."—*Gibbon*.

1½ m. E. of Brugg stands the *Abbey of Königsfelden* (King's field), founded, 1310, by the Empress Elizabeth, and Agnes Queen of Hungary, on the spot where, two years before, their

husband and father, the Emperor Albert, was assassinated. The convent, a group of gloomy piles, was suppressed in 1528; part of it is now converted into a farm-house, an hospital, and a mad-house; the rest is falling to decay. The dilapidated *Church* contains some very fine painted glass, and numerous pavement tombs, with sculptured coats of arms of a long train of nobles who fell in the battle of *Sempach*. The large vaults beneath were the burial-place of many members of the Austrian family, including Agnes, and Leopold, who fell at *Sempach*, but they were removed hence into the Austrian dominions in 1770. According to tradition the high altar stands on the spot where Albert fell. He was about to invade Switzerland with his army, had crossed the ferry of the Reuss in a small boat, leaving his suite on the opposite bank, and attended only by the four conspirators. The chief of them, John of Suabia, his nephew—who had been instigated to slay him by the wrong he endured in being kept out of his paternal inheritance by his uncle—first struck him in the throat with his lance. Balm ran him through with his sword, and Walter von *Essenbach* cleft his skull with a felling-stroke. Wart, the fourth, took no share in the murder. Although the deed was so openly done, in broad day, almost under the walls of the Imperial Castle of Habsburg, and in sight of a large retinue of armed attendants, the murderers were able to escape in different directions; and the imperial retainers took to flight, leaving their dying master to breathe his last in the arms of a poor peasant who happened to pass.

A peasant-girl that royal head upon her bosom laid,
And, shrinking not for woman's dread, the face of death survey'd:
Alone she sate. From hill and wood low sunk the mournful sun;
Fast gushed the fount of noble blood. Treason his worst had done.
With her long hair she vainly pressed the wounds to staunch their tide;
Unknown, on that meek, humble breast, imperial Albert died.—*Mrs. Hemans*.

A direful vengeance was wreaked by the children of the murdered

monarch; not, however, upon the murderers—for, with the exception of Wart, the only one who did not raise his hand against him, they all escaped—but upon their families, relations, and friends; and 1000 victims are believed to have expiated, with their lives, a crime of which they were totally innocent. Queen Agnes gratified her spirit of vengeance with the sight of these horrid executions, exclaiming, while 63 unfortunate men were butchered before her, “Now I bathe in May-dew!” She ended her days in the convent of Königsfelden, which she had founded and endowed with the confiscated property of those whom she had slaughtered. Penance, prayer, and almsgiving could avail but little to stifle the qualms of a guilty conscience for the bloody deeds which she had committed; and it is recorded that a holy hermit, to whom she had applied for absolution, replied to her, “Woman! God is not to be served with bloody hands, nor by the slaughter of innocent persons, nor by convents built with the plunder of orphans and widows, but by mercy and forgiveness of injuries.” The building in which she passed 50 years of her life was destroyed; that which is shown as her cell is not so in reality. There was a grove of oaks on the spot at the time the murder was committed. The tree under which Albert fell was converted into a chest to hold Agnes’ jewels, and is still preserved.

About 2 m. from Brugg, on a wooded height called Wülpselsberg, stand the remains of the *Castle of Habsburg*, or *Habichtsburg* (Hawk’s Castle), the cradle of the House of Austria, built by Count Radbod of Altenburg, 1020, an ancestor of the family. A mere fragment of the original building now exists. The tall, square keep of rough stones has walls 8 ft. thick; and beneath it a dungeon, to be entered only by a trap-door in the floor above. The view from it is picturesque and interesting; the eye ranges along the course of the three rivers, over the site of the Roman *Vindonissa* and *Königsfelden*, the sepulchre of

imperial Albert: on the S. rises the ruined castle of *Braunegg*, which belonged to the sons of the tyrant *Gessler*; and below it *Birr*, where *Pestalozzi*, the teacher, died, and is buried. It takes in at a single glance the whole Swiss patrimony of the *Habsburgs*—an estate far more limited than that of many a British peer—from which *Rudolph* was called to wield the sceptre of *Charlemagne*. The House of Austria were deprived of their Swiss territories by papal ban, 150 years after *Rudolph’s* elevation: but it is believed that the ruin has again become the property of the Austrian Emperor by purchase.

On quitting *Brugg*, the rly. leaves the *Aar*: It traverses *Oderdorf* (near which are scanty remains of a Roman amphitheatre), and crosses the river *Reuss* to the

Turgi Junction Stat., where the branch from *Waldshut* (Rte. 7) joins the main line from *Olten* to *Zürich*. (A large cotton manufacture here.) Since this line was opened, travellers from *Mannheim* or *Heidelberg* may reach *Zürich* by the express train in 9 hrs., without changing carriages from *Klein Basel*.

From hence the rly. keeps the l. bank of the *Limmat* to

Baden Stat. (Inn: *Waage* (Balances), the best hotels are across the water at the baths, more than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the town).—This ancient walled town, of 1800 Inhab., is squeezed within a narrow defile on the l. bank of the *Limmat*, here crossed by a wooden bridge. The ruins of the *Castle* overlook it from a rocky eminence, now tun-nelled through by the *Zürich Railway*, well worth ascending for the singular view. It was anciently the residence and stronghold of the Austrian princes. Here were planned the expeditions against the Swiss, which were frustrated at *Morgarten* and *Sempach*. At length when the Pope, in 1415, excommunicated the Archduke *Frederick*, the Swiss took it and burnt it. In the *Rathhaus* of *Baden* the preliminaries preceding the treaty of peace which terminated the war of the Spanish Succession, were arranged by Prince *Eugene* on the part of

Austria, and by Marshal Villars for France, in 1712.

Baden im Argau, like its namesakes in Baden and Austria, was frequented on account of its mineral waters by the Romans, who called it *Thermæ Helveticæ*. It was sacked and destroyed by Cæcina. Tacitus mentions it as "in modum municipii extructus locus, ameno salubrium aquarum usu frequens."—*Hist.* i. 67.

The *Baths* (*Inns*: Stadthof, best; Limmathof; Schiff), on the borders of the Limmat, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile below or N. of the town, are resorted to between June and Sept. by numerous visitors, 15,000 in 1861, chiefly French and Swiss. The waters are warm and sulphureous, having a temperature of 118° Fahr. There are 19 springs and a copious outflow, and are good for rheumatism, &c.

The Swiss Baden, though not equal in beauty to its namesakes in other parts of Europe, has considerable attractions in the country around it. The rocky heights on each side of the river—the one surmounted by the ruined castle, the other partly covered by vineyards—form a portal through which the Limmat pours. Before this gorge was formed, Baden and the country above it must have been a vast lake.

Agreeable walks are made for invalids by the side of the Limmat, and many pleasant excursions may be made in the country around—the most interesting being that described above, to Schintznach (8 miles), by Windisch, Königsfelden, and Habsburg.

Roman relics are constantly discovered in this district. Gambling must have been a prevailing vice among the visitors to the baths, and the Roman Legions stationed here, if it is true that a neighbouring field has obtained the name of *Dice Meadow* (*Wurfel Wiese*), from the quantity of dice dug up in it.

The *Railroad* passes by a tunnel 800 feet long, under the Stein or Castle hill, and runs along the l. bank of the Limmat. It passes Oestaden Stat. and Schlieren Stat. The Cistercian

convent of *Wettingen*, a vast building with many courts, gardens, &c., surrounded by a wall, is situated in an angle formed by a bend of the river on its rt. bank. It was suppressed by the council of the canton (Aarau), 1841, and is now a seminary. Its *church*, founded in 1227, contains tombs of some early counts of Habsburg and Kyburg, the stone coffin in which the body of the Emperor Albert was interred for 14 months after his murder, painted glass, carved stalls, &c. The railway makes a great bend here.

Dietikon. The stately building l. on the height surrounded by vineyards is a Kelterhaus (wine-press) of the convent of *Wettingen*. Near this village the French, under Massena, crossed the river, Sept. 24, 1799—a masterly movement, which led to the defeat of the Russians and the capture of Zürich.

The landscape becomes very animated in the neighbourhood of Zürich. The distant Alps on the rt. and the long ridge of the Albis, terminating towards Zürich in the Uetliberg, crowned with its *Inn*, are conspicuous objects. The Sihl river is crossed.

ZÜRICH. In Rte. 9. *Station*, on the former Schützenplatz.

ROUTE 7.

BASLE TO SCHAFFHAUSEN AND CONSTANCE, BY WALDSHUT.—RAIL.

	Eng. m.
Basle.	
Rheinfelden	10
Säckingen	20
Lauffenburg	26
Waldshut	35
Schaffhausen	64

Terminus at the Baden Stat., in Klein Basel. This is the shortest way from Frankfurt to Zürich.

This railway runs on the rt. or Baden side of the Rhine, in continuation of the Baden Railway, and was extended 1863 to Schaffhausen and Constance.

[On the opposite side of the Rhine, a little before Rheinfelden, is

Augst, which stands on each side of the small river Ergolz, on the site of the Roman city *Augusta Rauracorum*, founded by Munatius Plancus, in the reign of Augustus. Its existence on this spot is sufficiently proved by the quantity of Roman remains that have been, and still are, discovered, wherever the ground is turned up. There are indications of an amphitheatre, now converted into pleasure grounds; but the remains of buildings are very slight. The relics which have been found are curious, though the proprietor of the ground has arranged them in the style of a tea-garden. There are several columns, inscriptions, tombs, and fragments of statues, all of the Lower Empire; but which the antiquary would do well to examine, as they are inedited.]

Grenzach Stat. Excellent wine grown here. The line approaches the Rhine, breaking and foaming over rocks near

Rheinfelden Stat. (*Inn*: Krone, Post, saltwater baths), a town of 1500 Inhab., surrounded by walls and closed at either end by gates in the true Swiss fashion. It stands on the l. bank of the Rhine, here crossed by a covered wooden bridge, above and below which the rocks in the river bed form considerable rapids and falls. The town is partly built of fragments of Roman masonry brought from the ruins of *Augst*. Opposite the inn is a handsome fountain, a pillar of bronze, supporting a standardbearer with the arms of the town. Duke Bernard of Saxe Weimar gained a battle here in the Thirty Years' War (1638) in which the Duc de Rohan perished.

The success of Baron v. Glenck at Schweitzerhall (*Rte.* 1) induced several companies to follow his example in boring for salt. Brine was reached in 1845 at Rheinfelden at a depth of 351 ft., and below it was a bed of rock salt 80 feet thick. At Ryburg, 4 m. to the E., the salt is first reached 500 ft. below the surface. At both places the brine that is pumped up is almost saturated, containing 26 per

cent. of salt. Their joint produce is 124,000 cwt. The companies are bound by similar conditions to those described in *Rte.* 1.

Säckingen Stat. has a fine *Abbey Ch.* with 2 towers.

Klein Lauffenburg Stat. connected by a wooden bridge with

Lauffenburg (Inn: Adler (Aigle), clean, rather dear), a town of 900 Inhab. on the l. bank of the Rhine. The river flows in a deep-sunk channel, rugged with rocks which fret its bright blue-green waters; it is here interrupted by more rapids and falls, in German called *Lauffen*, whence the name of the place. Small boats can only pass them by unloading their cargoes above, and being let down gradually by stout ropes, held by men stationed on the bank. It was in descending these rapids in this manner that a young English nobleman, Lord Montague, the last male of his line, was drowned—on the same day that his family mansion, Cowdray, in Sussex, was burnt to the ground. The accident is commonly, but erroneously, referred to the Rhine fall at Schaffhausen.

The Fall is not seen from the stat.

Waldshut Junct. Stat. (*Inns*: Rebstock (Vine), clean and reasonable; *Badischer Hof*); a walled town of 1000 Inhab., on the skirts of the Black Forest. [The Swiss *Junct. Rly.* crosses the Rhine and ascends the rt. bank of the Aar to

Turgi Junct. Stat., near a small village called Coblenz (*Confluentia*). the Rhine is here joined by the Aar.]

The Schaffhausen railway leaves the Rhine and proceeds along a tolerably level but dull and uninteresting country, enlivened only by occasional distant views of the mountains.

Thiengen Stat.

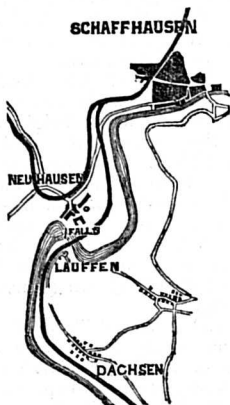
At *Erzingen Stat.* the Baden territory is quitted, and soon afterwards canton Schaffhausen is entered.

Neuhausen Stat. (on the rt. bank) —*Inns*: Schweizer Hof, very good; pleasant gardens extending to the Rhine; the obliging landlord has ac-

quired the exclusive right of fishing: *pension*, 40 fr. a week, 150 fr. a month. Bellevue, H. and *pension*, new, very good. [*Inns* on the l. bank, opposite Neuhausen—H. du Château de Lauffen; omnibuses to Dachsen Stat. H. Witzig, good and cheap, at that Stat.: no view.] Rte. 9.

FALLS OF THE RHINE.

Whether the traveller stop at Neuhausen Stat. or at Dachsen Stat, he will find the utmost facilities for viewing the Falls from all points. He may cross



the stone bridge above the Falls, and return by Ferry below the Falls. Our advice is to approach them first from Lauffen Castle on the l. bank. Thus nothing will be seen of it until it is at once presented in its most magnificent point of view.

It will take at least 2 hours to see the falls properly.

The garden of the Castle of Lauffen is situated on a high rock overlooking the fall; a charge of 1 fr. is made for each person admitted to the castle and the walks. Here is also a print-room; many pretty views of the Rhine, &c., may be found for sale, also maps and guide-books. There are several platforms and kiosks in the gardens, from which views of the falls are obtained, and several flights of very rude stone and wooden steps conduct to a project-

ing stage, or rude balcony, of stout timbers, the Fischetz, thrown out, like the bowsprit of a ship, from the vertical cliff to within a few feet of the fall. It actually overhangs the roaring shoot, and, though perfectly secure, trembles under the impulse of the water. Here, covered with the spray, the traveller may enjoy the full grandeur of this *hell of waters*; and it is only by this close proximity, amidst the tremendous roar and the uninterrupted rush of the river, passing with the swiftness of an arrow above his head and beneath his feet, that a true notion can be formed of the stupendous nature of this cataract. The best time for seeing the fall is about 8 in the morning, when the iris floats within the spray (provided the sun shines), and by moonlight. The river is usually most full in the month of July. The Rhine, above the fall, is about 300 feet broad; the height of the fall varies from 60 feet on one side to 45 on the other; but, including the rapids above, the entire descent is not less than 100 feet. Two isolated pillars of rock, standing in the middle of the stream, divide the fall into 3 shoots. Seen from behind, these pinnacles appear eaten away by the constant friction of the water, and tottering to their fall; yet, though the rock is soft, the waste of it within the memory of man has not been perceptible.

The river, after its leap, forms a large semicircular bay, as it were to rest itself; the sides of which are perpetually chafed by the heaving billows. Here, in front of the fall, on the rt. bank, stands the *Castle of Wörth*, a square tower, containing a camera obscura, which shows the fall in another and a very singular point of view. From this tower to the foot of the rock on which the castle of Lauffen stands, boats ply, to ferry visitors across, charging $\frac{1}{2}$ fr. each. The boats are much tossed about in their passage, but make it without risk. The boatmen below the falls will land adventurous travellers on the central rock at 4 fr. each; and those who have a steady head may ascend it, and view the fall from this

vantage-ground. These boatmen appear to enjoy a monopoly, and are insolent.

Arrangements are made for illuminating the falls.

The discharge of water at the Falls is about 80,000 cub. ft. per second. When the river is at the highest, it has been known to diminish to 3000 ft. The broken nature of its bed is such that, during the low waters in the early spring of 1848 and 1858, men were able to cross it by leaping from rock to rock. An iron monument commemorates the event.

On the rocks on the rt. bank are some iron-works, the hammers of which are worked by the fall. The buildings and smoky chimneys materially injure the beauty of the falls. Immediately above the falls is the stone bridge of the Schaffhausen and Zürich Railway, which passes near the Castle of Laufen and the falls. (Rte. 9.)

It is a curious fact that no classic or ancient author mentions the Rheinfall.

SCHAFFHAUSEN STAT. at the Oberthor, near the Promenade. (*Inns*: in the town—Couronne, fair, not far from the station; Post (Schwam); Lion. On the S. side of the Rhine, —Cerf (Hirsch), clean, cheap. For hotels at the Falls see last page.)

Schaffhausen (8700 Inhab., Prot.) stands on the right bank of the Rhine, just above the spot where the rapids and falls commence, which render that river unnavigable as far as Basle. It was originally a landing-place and magazine, at which the portage of goods began and ended, and owes its origin and name to the boat or *skiff houses*, here erected. It is distinguished above almost every other town in Switzerland by the antique architecture of its houses, whose fronts and projecting oriel windows are decorated with carvings and stucco-work. Many of them were originally entirely covered externally with fresco paintings, but of these

there are now few examples: the house called Zum Ritter, nearly opposite the Couronne, is one of the most remarkable of those that remain. The houses or *halls* of the ancient *Guilds*, or *Zünfte*, are worthy of attention on account of their quaint inscriptions and allusive ornaments. The wall and turreted gateways of the town have been preserved, and furnish very picturesque subjects for the pencil. There are a few manufactures of iron, silk, and cotton.

It is almost exclusively on account of its vicinity to the celebrated Falls of the Rhine that Schaffhausen is visited. It has little resort, except from the passage of travellers, it being one of the portals of Switzerland, and there is little within the town to deserve notice. On the height above it rises the curious castle called *Munoth* (Munitio?). Its tower has walls of great thickness (18 feet), built in 1564. It is provided with bomb-proof casemates, and is a curious specimen of the transition style of fortification. There are subterranean passages under it. The whole is shown (1 fr. for a small party).

Frederick Duke of Tyrol (Empty-purse) conveyed away Pope John XXIII. from the justice of the Council of Constance, 1415, and kept him safe in the castle of Schaffhausen, for which he was placed under the ban of the Empire.

The Minster—originally the Abbey of All Saints—was founded 1052. It is a building in the Romanesque, or round arched style, remarkable for its antiquity, the solidity of its construction, and as exhibiting an unaltered specimen of that style. The arches of the nave are supported by single circular columns, and those in the centre of the transept by square piers of the most massive kind. The cloister attached to the church contains a profusion of monuments of the magistrates and patrician families, but everything is covered with plaster and whitewash.

The public walks (*Fäsistaub*) outside the town on the W. side command fine views of the Rhine, &c.

There are baths close to the Rhine and a swimming-bath in the river.

The celebrated wooden bridge over the Rhine, of a single arch, 365 feet in span, was burnt by the French in 1799, and is replaced by one of ordinary construction. A model of the original may be seen in the town library: the architect was a carpenter from Appenzell, named Grubenmann.

The Town Library contains the collection of books of the celebrated Swiss historian Müller, who was born here.

Railways to Winterthur and Zürich, to Basle, and to Constance.

Diligences to Donaueschingen and Freiburg (on the road to Strasburg and Frankfurt).

Omnibus to the Falls (1 fr.).

The Falls of the Rhine are about 3 miles below Schaffhausen. They are easily accessible by the 2 rlys. N. and S. of the river, Neuhausen Stat. on the N., and the Dachsen Stat. of the Rly. to Zürich, being but 10 min. from the falls. There are now good hotels on both banks.

ROUTE 8.

SCHAFFHAUSEN TO CONSTANCE—RAIL.—
LAKE OF CONSTANCE.

There are 2 routes, both recommendable. A. along N. bank of Rhine: rly. 5 trains daily, 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. B. road along S. side. The steamer by the river has ceased to run.

A. The *Railway*, on the N. side of the Rhine, takes a N. direction by Herblingen Stat. to Thayingen, where it enters Baden and proceeds to the Lower Lake near Radolfzell.

Singen Stat.—(Inn, poor and extortionate). Near this place you pass at the foot of *Hohentwiel*. The castle is now dismantled. The lofty rock

upon which it stands gives it the appearance of an Indian hill-fort.

Radolfzell Stat.—(Inn: Poste, good)—a desolate town, with a fine church, in the true German-Gothic style.

The scenery is exceedingly agreeable, often striking. The woods abound in most splendid butterflies. Collections of these insects may be bought at Singen, and also at Radolfzell.

Reichenau Stat.

Traversing the isthmus between the Lower Lake of Constance and the bay of Ueberlingen, the rly. reaches the Rhine opposite Constance, having first traversed the island on which stands the convent (now a manufactory) where John Huss was shut up.

The Rhine here, suddenly contracted from a lake to a river, is crossed by a wooden bridge, in order to reach

Constance Stat. (See next page.)

B. The *Swiss Road* runs along the l. bank of the Rhine, past the Nunneries of Paradies and Katherinethal, the former belonging to the order of St. Clara, the latter of St. Dominic; but the revenues and the number of sisters in both are now much reduced. The Austrian army under the Archduke Charles crossed the Rhine at Paradies 1799.

Diessenhofen—(Inn: Adler).

Wagenhausen—(Inn: Ochse, clean and fair).

[I. A little off the road lies

Stein—(Inns: Schwan; Krone)—a town of 1270 Inhab., on the rt. bank of the Rhine, belonging to Schaffhausen, united by a wooden bridge with a suburb on the l. bank. The *Abbey of St. George* is a very ancient ecclesiastical foundation. The owners of the ruined castle of Hohenklingen, situated on the rocky height, were originally the feudal seigneurs of the town, but the citizens obtained independence from their masters by purchase.

3 miles E. of Stein, at a height of between 500 and 600 feet above the Rhine, are situated the *Quarries of Ehnigen*, remarkable for the vast abundance of fossil remains of terrestrial and fresh-water animals found in

them, including mammalia, birds, reptiles, fishes, shells, insects, and plants, some of them identical with species now living. The most curious discovery is that of the perfect skeleton of a fossil fox, made by Sir Roderick Murchison: a very large tortoise had previously been brought to light. The beds of rock in which the quarries are worked consist of marls, limestones, shales, and building-stone. They lie immediately above the formation called Molasse, and differ in their organic contents from all other fresh-water formations hitherto discovered.]

Above Stein the Rhine expands into a lake called *Untersee* (lower lake) connected again by the Rhine at its upper extremity with the large Lake of Constance. *Feldbach*, also a nunnery, belonging to sisters of the Cistercian order, is passed before reaching

Steckborn (*Inns*: Löwe; Sonne). "In the broad part of the Rhine, where it is still rather a lake than a river, is the *Isle of Reichenau*, anciently famed for its Benedictine Monastery, suppressed in 1799, founded by one of the successors of Charlemagne, of which the *Church* (partly Romanesque) and *Treasury* remain. In the *Treasury* are to be seen the shrine of St. Fortunata, an ivory ciborium, a cope, a crosier, and a missal of the 10th century."—F. S.

Itznang, a small village on the opposite shore of the river, within the territory of Baden, is the birthplace of Mesmer, the inventor of animal magnetism.

Near the village of *Berlingen* the pretty *château* of the Duchess of Dino appears; and a little further that of *Arenenberg*, once the residence of the late Duchess of St. Leu (Hortense, ex-Queen of Holland), and of her son Prince Louis (now the Emperor Louis Napoleon), before he made his attempt at Strasbourg. It was sold in 1843 to a Neuchâtel gentleman, and more recently repurchased by the Emperor.

The Castle of *Gottlieben*, on the l. of the road, built by the Bishops of Constance 1250, on the Rhine, at the

point where it enters the Untersee, is remarkable for having been the prison of John Huss and Jerome of Prague, who were confined within its dungeons by order of the Emperor Sigismund and Pope John XXIII. The latter was himself transferred a few months later to the same prison, by order of the Council of Constance. The building is now the property of Count Beroldingen.

Petershausen, now a barrack on the rt. bank of the Rhine opposite Constance, was a free abbey of the Empire.

CONSTANCE. *Inns*: Brochet (*Hecht*); Post (Golden Adler, highly recommended); Aigle d'Or; (Golden Löwe, outside the territory of the Customs League, just beyond the gate, in Switzerland, at Kreutzlingen, good).

The *Angler* can find no better quarters in Switzerland than at Constance for lake fishing.

Constance, a city of 8000 Inhab., instead of 40,000, which it once possessed, is remarkable for its antiquity, since its streets and many of its buildings remain unaltered since the 15th century. Although situated on the l. or Swiss bank of the Rhine, it belongs to Baden. It is connected with the opposite shore by a long iron *Bridge*, which carries both road and rly., and occupies a projecting angle of ground at the W. extremity of the Bodensee, or lake of Constance; its agreeable position and interesting historical associations make amends for the want of life perceptible within its venerable walls. It has of late, however, revived considerably; the government have formed, at a large expense, a Port on the lake, which facilitates the navigation, while it is an ornament to the town: and several manufactories of cotton and muslin have sprung up. The ancient bishopric, numbering 87 bishops, was terminated in 1802, and in 1805 Constance was ceded by Austria to Baden.

The *Minster* is a handsome Gothic structure, founded 1052, rebuilt in the 16th century; the tower with spire of open work in 1850-57, with fine open-work turrets in the W.

end; the doors of the main portal are of oak, carved with the Passion of our Lord, executed in 1470 by one Simon Bainer. The nave is supported by sixteen pillars, each of a single block, and dates from the 13th century. The spot where the "Arch-heretic Huss" stood, as sentence of death by burning was pronounced on him by his unrighteous judges, is still pointed out. Robert Hallam, Bishop of Salisbury, who presided over the English deputation to the council, is buried here, in front of the high altar, under a tomb, which is very remarkable, as being of *English brass*, which is fully proved by the workmanship. It was probably sent over from England by his executors. He wears the Order of the Garter. Beneath the ch. is a very ancient *crypt*, with a passage leading from it towards the river. Two sides of the ancient *cloisters*, whose arches are filled in with beautiful tracery, are yet standing. On the E. side of the cathedral is a chapel, perhaps a baptistery, in the centre of which is a Gothic Holy Sepulchre.

There are some missals, plate relics in the *Sacristy*, also a beautiful Gothic fireplace and piscina. In the *Vestry-room* above are a range of cupboards or presses of carved oak, none of a later date than the xvth century. There is a beautiful view from the tower of the cathedral, W. over the lake and mountains of Tyrol, and E. over the valley of the Rhine.

The *Dominican Convent*, now a cotton-printing establishment, is the place where Huss was confined. The stone chamber itself has been removed (at least all that remained of it) to the Kaufhaus. The church forms a picturesque ruin, in the early style of German Gothic. The chapter-house is even older. The cloisters are perfect. The little island upon which this building stands was fortified by the Romans, and a portion of the wall, towards the lake, can yet be discerned. The Rly. crosses it.

In the *Hall of the Kaufhaus* (built 1388, as a warehouse), close to the lake, the *Great Council of Constance* held its sittings 1414-18, in a large

room supported by wooden pillars. That famous assembly, composed, not of bishops alone, like the ancient councils, but of deputies, civil and ecclesiastical, from the whole of Christendom, including princes, cardinals (30), patriarchs (4), archbishops (20), bishops (150), professors of universities and doctors of theology (200), besides a host of ambassadors, inferior prelates, abbots, priors, &c., was convened for the purpose of remedying the abuses of the church. It exerted its influence in curbing the Papal power, by deposing the infamous John XXIII. and Benedict XIII., and by electing in their place Martin V. It was by the act of this council that John Huss and Jerome of Prague were seized and executed, in spite of the safe-conduct granted to the former by the Emperor Sigismund, the president of the assembly.

The chairs occupied by the Emperor and Pope, a model of the dungeon, now destroyed, in which Huss was confined; it is of the same size as the original, and in it the actual door and other fragments have been incorporated;—also the car on which he was drawn to execution; the figure of Abraham, which supported the pulpit from the Minster, and which the people mistook for Huss, and defaced accordingly, and some other relics of the council, still remain in the hall, besides a collection of Roman and German antiquities, dug up in the neighbourhood. 1 fr. is charged for admission.

The *house* in which *Huss* lodged, bearing a rude likeness of him, is pointed out in the Paul's Strasse, near the Schnetzthor. He was thrown into prison, soon after his arrival, in the *Franciscan Convent*, now a ruin, whence he was removed to a more irksome dungeon, affording scarcely room to move, in the before-mentioned *Dominican Convent*.

The field, outside of the town, in the suburb of Brühl, in which he suffered martyrdom, with a fortitude which moved even his judges and executioners to admiration—nay, even the place where the stake was planted,

are still pointed out; and rude images of Huss and Jerome, formed of clay taken from the spot, are offered for sale to the stranger.

Here is a capital Swimming Bath at the *Ecole de Natation* in the midst of the lake, approached by a long plank bridge, at the end of which, stuck up in large letters visible far off, may be read the temperature of the waters.

Excursions may be made hence to Reichenau (p. 24), Meinau, and Heiligenberg. The island of Meinau, about 4 m. N. of Constance, is a well-cultivated little estate, yet with no want of trees. The house was once a commandery of the Knights of the Teutonic Order. From the terrace of the garden there is a magnificent view over the lake, of the mountains of the Vorarlberg and Appenzell, among which the Sentis is pre-eminent. Nearer at hand the cultivated German shores, with the towns of Mörsberg, Friedrichshafen, &c., complete the picture. Meinau is approached by a wooden foot-bridge $\frac{1}{4}$ m. long, connecting it with the shore; there is an inn on the island.

From *Hohenrain*, 1 hour's walk, is a fine view of the Alps.

Railway to Schaffhausen and Basle (Baden line).

Diligences or steamer to Romanshorn, thence by rail to Zürich;—steamer to Rorschach, thence by rail to St. Gall or Coire (Railway direct to Zürich begun).

Lake of Constance, or Boden See.

8 or 10 Steamboats navigate the lake of Constance. The time and place of starting are promulgated in a printed tariff, which will be found hung up in all the inns near the lake. It takes 5 hours to go from Constance to Lindau, and 3 to Rorschach or Friedrichshafen. The steamers take carriages. The numerous stoppages, and the shifting of passengers from one steamer to another, are annoyances for which travellers must be prepared.

The lake of Constance, called by the Germans *Boden See*, and anciently

known to the Romans under the name *Lacus Brigantinus* (from Brigantia, the modern Bregenz), is bordered by the territories of 5 different states—Baden, Würtemberg, Bavaria, Austria, and Switzerland, and a portion of its coasts belong to each of them. It is about 44 m. long, from Bregenz to Constance, and 30 from Bregenz to Friedrichshafen; about 9 m. wide in the broadest part; 964 ft. is its greatest depth; and it abounds in fish, of which 25 species have been enumerated. It lies 1385 ft. above the sea.

A telegraph iron cable has been sunk, and works between Rorschach and Lindau at 293 feet, and between Romanshorn and Friedrichshafen is nearly 900 feet in depth.

Its main tributary is the Rhine, which enters at its E. extremity, and flows out under the walls of Constance. The accumulated deposits of the river have formed an extensive delta at the upper end of the lake, and are annually encroaching farther.

Its banks, either flat or gently undulating, present little beauty of scenery compared with other Swiss lakes; but they are eminently distinguished for their fertility, and its S. shore is studded with a picturesque line of ruined castles or hill-forts of the middle ages.

At its E. extremity it displays alpine features in distant glimpses of the snow-topped mountains of Vorarlberg, but the distant Sentis towers over the cultivated slopes which border the lake, and is a fine feature all the way from Constance.

Its waters, on an average, are lowest in the month of February, and highest in June and July, when the snows are melting: it sometimes swells a foot in 24 hours at that season.

On quitting Constance, to the rt. is the suppressed Augustine convent of Kreuzlingen, now turned into an agricultural school, with 70 or 80 pupils. The edifice dates from the end of the 30 years' war, in the course of which the preceding building was destroyed.

The Church possesses in a side chapel some curious wood-carvings by a Tyrolese; a representation of

the Passion with several hundred small figures; also a vest embroidered with pearls, the gift of Pope John XXII. in 1414. *Inns*: Goldener Löwe (H. Delisle), clean and reasonable.

The canton of Thurgovia, which occupies the S. shore of the lake from Constance to Arbon, is distinguished for its surpassing fertility. Instead of rocks and mountains, and alpine pastures, the characteristics of other parts of Switzerland, this canton presents richly-cultivated arable land, waving with corn and hemp; the place of forests is supplied by orchards; it is, indeed, the garden and granary of Helvetia. The country is at the same time thickly peopled, abounding in villages and cheerful cottages.

The nunnery of Münsterlingen, about 4 m. further, was suppressed in 1838, and converted into an hospital. The surviving sisters are allowed to occupy one wing of the building during their lifetime. The old convent near the water was the scene of the reconciliation between the Emperor Sigismund and Duke Frederick of Austria, 1418.

Romanshorn (Rte. 10)—(H. Bodan)—terminus of the Rly. from Winterthur and Zürich. It is the port of communication by steamer with

Friedrichshafen, on the N. shore of the lake, where is the *Villa* of the King of Würtemberg, in which he usually passes a part of the summer. At Friedrichshafen (*Inns*: Deutsches Haus, at the Rly. station; Hôtel Nestle, nearer the steamers, good and moderate; König von Würtemberg; Sonne; Krone) is the terminus of the Stuttgart Rly., which joins the Baden Rly. at Bruchsal. See HANDBOOK FOR SOUTH GERMANY.

Arbon (*Inns*: Kreutz; Traube), a walled town of 660 Inhab., close upon the lake. The Romans under Augustus built a fort here, upon the high road from Augst and Windisch to Bregenz, which they called *Arbor Felix*. It was abandoned by them to the Allemanni in the 5th century. The *Castle*, on an eminence overlooking the lake, was built 1510, but its tower is said to rest on Roman founda-

tions. The *belfry*, detached from the church, is boarded, not walled, on the side nearest the castle, in order that no force hostile to the lords of the castle should be enabled to shelter themselves in it, or annoy the castle from thence. The monk of St. Gall is said to have died at Arbon (640), and the place was a favourite residence of Conradin of Hohenstaufen.

Lindau (*Inns*: Bayrischer Hof; Krone) is the terminus of the Bavarian Rly., 5 hrs. from Augsburg. See HANDBOOK FOR SOUTH GERMANY.

Bregenz (*Inns*: Oesterreichischer Hof; Post or Goldener Adler; Schwarzer Adler; Krone), the chief place in the Vorarlberg. Pedestrians intending to travel from Switzerland into the Tyrol may find it a good plan to pass their heavy luggage at the Austrian custom-house here, and forward it by diligence to Innsbruck or Botzen. (See Rte. 66, and HANDBOOK FOR SOUTH GERMANY).

Rorschach (Rte. 65). Rly. *Terminus* of the Railways to St. Gall (Rte. 65) and to Coire up the valley of the Rhine (Rte. 66). A short distance from Rorschach is the mouth of the Rhine, E. of which is the Vorarlberg in Austrian territory.

ROUTE 9.

SCHAFFHAUSEN TO ZÜRICH—RHEINFALL
RAILWAY.

Stations.	Eng. m.
Schaffhausen.	
Dachsen	3
Andelfingen	7
Winterthur	18
Effretikon	24
Wallisellen	30
Zürich	35

The Rly. station at Schaffhausen is just outside the town on the S.W. After leaving the town, the rly. continues on the rt. bank of the Rhine for about 2 m., till just above the falls, when it turns and crosses the river by a very long stone bridge. Immediately afterwards it enters a tunnel and passes under the Castle of Laufen, one of the most remarkable pieces of rly. scenery in the world. On emerging from the tunnel, which is short, a rapid view of the falls may be caught on the rt.

Dachsen Stat. (Hotel Witzig) is about 10 min. walk from the Falls of the Rhine and Schloss Laufen hotel. (See Rte. 7.) The rly. keeps for a short distance on the cliffs close to the Rhine, but high above it, forming a road wonderfully picturesque, but frightfully expensive to the rly. engineer, and then quits the Rhine and proceeds through a fertile country somewhat uninteresting, but with occasional fine views, towards the valley of the Thur, making a great bend in order to cross that river near

Andelfingen Stat.

The Rly. now ascends a considerable incline, in order to cross the ridge between the valley of the Thur and the valley of the Töss, and affords a fine view on the rt. before descending into the broad and fertile valley of the Töss.

Winterthur Junct. Stat.—(Buffet at Stat. Inns: *Adler, nearest the Stat., good; Wilder Mann, good;—Sonne)—an industrious manufacturing town of 6600 Inhab. (chiefly Protestants), consisting of two long parallel streets, crossed by eight smaller ones at

right angles. The *New School* is the only conspicuous building.

The weaving of muslin and the printing of cotton are the most thriving branches of industry here.

This is the junction station of the *Rorschach* and *St. Gall* line with the *Romanshorn* line (Rte. 10).

On the banks of the Töss, about 3 m. on the l. of the road, and nearly 4 m. from Winterthur, rises the *Castle of Kyburg*, now the property of Princess Sabansky, memorable in history as the seat of a powerful family of counts, who, between the 9th and 13th centuries, gained possession of the N. of Switzerland, as far as the Rhine and lake of Constance, and numbered as their dependants and vassals 100 lords of minor castles, now for the most part in ruins. The line becoming extinct in 1264, their domains fell to the share of Rudolph of Habsburg; and the Austrian family, though long since deprived of them, still retains among its titles that of Count of Kyburg.

The ancient Dominican Convent of Töss, on the road, now converted into a factory, was the chosen retreat of the Empress Agnes after the murder of her father, Albert of Austria. Here her daughter-in-law, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, took the veil, and died in the odour of sanctity: her monument, with the arms of Hungary, is visible in the existing church. The cloisters, built with the church in 1469, are ornamented with frescos paintings of Bible subjects.

After leaving Winterthur the rly. follows the rather picturesque valley of the Töss, passing between steep green hills, leaving Kyburg on the l., and then follows another stream into the valley of the *Glatt*, up which on the l. there is a fine view of Glärnisch and other mountains.

Wallisellen Junct. Stat.

[Here the branch Rly. up the manufacturing valley of the Glatt to Rüti, and thence to Coire by Wallenstadt, joins.]

Shortly after leaving Wallisellen a long tunnel under the hill of Weid is traversed; on emerging from it the

Limmat is crossed, and after making some very sharp curves the Rly. reaches

ZÜRICH. — *Inns*: Hôtel Baur, a large, handsome, comfortable house, with a reading-room: and a 2nd house, a quieter hotel, with garden, and all English comforts, close to the lake, with a fine view, called H. Baur au Lac. These are two of the best Inns in Switzerland, and M. Baur is the most polite and attentive of landlords. *Charges*: Table-d'hôte at 5, 4 frs.; B., 2 frs.; rooms looking over the lake, 3 frs.; bougie, 1 fr.; sitting-room, 6 to 10 frs. In the reading-room the *Times*, *Galvani*, and 2 American papers. H. Bellevue, on the lake, good. H. Bilharz, formerly H. Bellevue, in the town. Schweizerhof, on the river, below the bridge, cheap. Züricher Hof on the rt. bank of the Limmat, view of the lake. Schwerdt (Epée). Faucon, large house. Storck, commercial. There is a good café restaurant in the Hotel Baur.

Since the branch Rly. has been opened from Waldshut to Turgi stat., on the Swiss N. E. line from Basle to Zürich, passengers taking the fast morning train from Frankfort may reach Zürich in the day without stopping, or even changing carriages at Basle.

Zürich, the most important manufacturing town of Switzerland, and the capital of a canton distinguished above all others for prosperous industry, has 20,000 Inhab., or, including its suburbs, 45,000, nearly all Protestants, and lies at the N. end of the lake of Zürich, and on the banks of the Limmat, just where it issues out of the lake in a rapid and healthful stream, clear as crystal, and another river, the Sihl, flows on the W. side of the town. A Roman station, *Turicum* (?), on this spot, probably gave rise both to the town and its name. The canton became one of the Swiss confederacy in 1351. The Reformation occasioned more bitterness here than in any other canton, and the domestic quarrels have

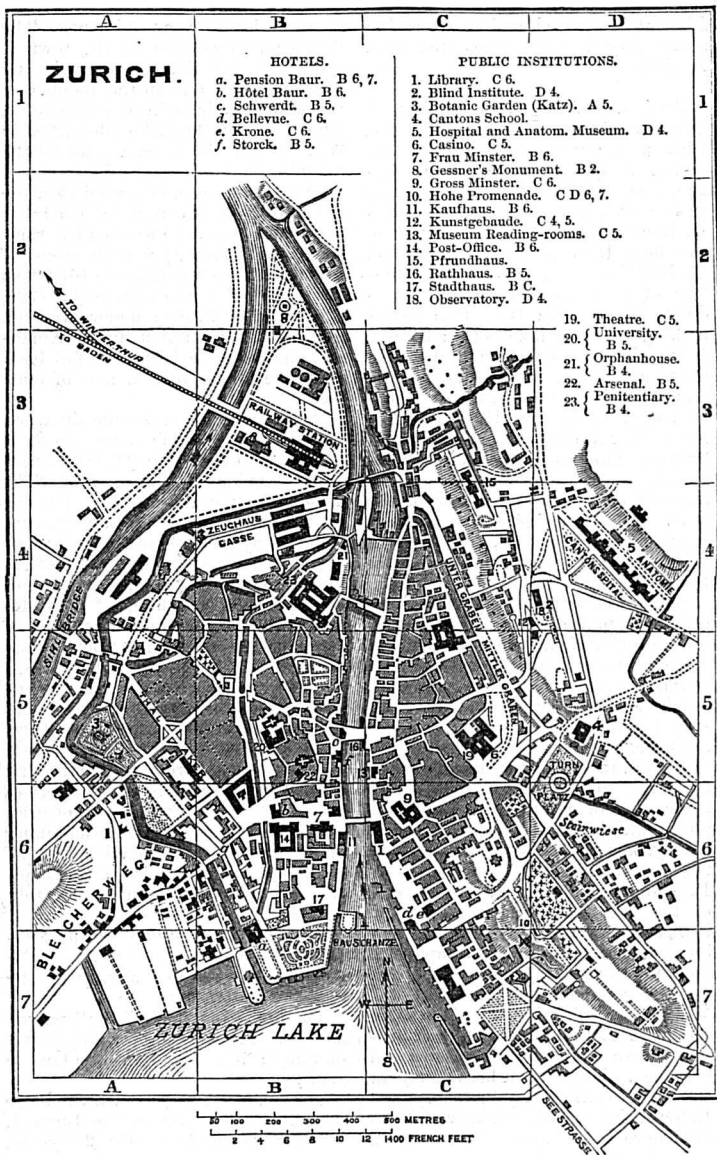
always been very violent. The flourishing condition of the town is visible in the improvements going forward in it, and in the number of the new buildings in and around it. The banks of the Lake (described in Rte. 13) and the Limmat, and all the neighbouring hills, are thickly dotted over with houses, now united with the town itself by the removal (in 1833) of the useless and inconvenient ramparts, and forming a wide circle of suburbs. This unfortunate town was the scene of a battle in Sept. 1799, when 37,000 French under Massena drove out the Russians under Korsakof, and compelled them to fall back upon the Rhine with a loss of 8000 men.

Apart from its agreeable situation, and thriving manufactures, there is not much to be seen in Zürich. There are no fine buildings here: that of the most consequence is the *Gross Münster*, on the rt. bank of the Limmat, surmounted by 2 W. steeples. It is venerable from its age, and worthy of respect from having been the scene of Zwingli's bold preachings of Reformation in the church, and amendment of morals. It is a massive Romanesque edifice of the 11th and 12th centys.; very plain within and without, but interesting in the eye of the architect and antiquary. It has no W. entrance, and ends square to the E. Its nave is supported on square pillars and round arches: beneath it is a very perfect crypt. See its very fine N. doorway with detached shafts and the adjoining cloisters raised upon small low triple arches, with slender columns and capitals of various patterns, admirably carved.

The *Frau Münster*, close to the Münster Bridge (13th centy.), and the *Barfusser Kerche* are worthy of the architect's attention.

The house in which Zwingli passed the last six years of his life is still standing: it is No. 185 in the Grosse Stadt.

The *Ch. of St. Peter* (with the large clock), on the l. bank of the Limmat, had for its minister, for 23 years, Lavater, the author of the renowned



work on Physiognomy, who was born at Zürich. On the capture of the town by the French army, he was shot, within a few steps of his own door, by a French soldier, to whom, but two minutes before, he had given wine and offered money, and while he was in the act of assisting another soldier who had been wounded. A high reward was offered by Massena, the French commander, for the discovery of the murderer: but Lavater refused to inform against him. After lingering through three months of excruciating agony, Lavater expired, Jan. 2, 1801, at the parsonage: his grave is marked by a simple stone in the *churchyard of St. Anne*, where Ebel, author of the *Swiss Guide*, and Escher von der Linth (Rte. 13), are also buried.

In the council-chamber of the *Rathhaus*, a massive square building opposite the Sword Inn, where the Diet used to meet, is an extravagant painting of the Oath at Grütli, by *Henry Fuseli* (properly *Fussli*), who was born here.

The *Town Library*, close to the New stone bridge, in a building formerly a church (*Wasserkirche*), contains, in addition to 45,000 printed volumes and MSS., 100 vols. of autograph letters of early Reformers; 3 Latin letters of *Lady Jane Grey* to Bullinger, in a beautifully clear and regular hand—a few grammatical errors have been remarked in them; Zwingli's Greek Bible, with marginal notes (chiefly Hebrew) by himself; a Roman inscription, giving the ancient name of Zürich, *Turicum*; a bust of Lavater, by *Dannecker*; a portrait of Zwingli and his daughter, by *Hans Asper*; a model in relief of a large part of Switzerland, interesting and superior to that at Lucerne; some very curious fossils from *Cehningen*, including one described by *Scheuchzer* as a human skull, though in reality a portion of a salamander—fossils of the Glarus slate, chiefly fishes, from the *Plattenberg*. Here are placed a number of antiquities found among the remains of *Swiss Lake Dwellings*, of which Professor Keller is the exponent.

The *Old Arsenal* (*Altes-Zeughaus*), near to Baur's Hotel, contains some

ancient armour; also a cross-bow, said to be (?) that with which William Tell shot the apple from his son's head; Zwingli's battle-axe. A sword of William Tell, and a battle-axe borne by Ulric Zwingli at the battle of Kappel (R. 16), are of very doubtful authenticity: though the malice of the enemies of Zwingli may have led to the assertion that he took active part in the fight, it is believed that he assisted his countrymen merely with exhortations and consolations of religion;—and several tattered standards, taken by the Swiss from their enemies, including one of Charles the Bold of Burgundy. This collection is inferior to those in several other Swiss cantons.

In 1832-3 a *University* was established at Zürich, and many professors, expelled from other countries for their political opinions, have repaired hither as teachers. As yet the number of students is not great. The building of the suppressed Augustine convent has been appropriated to its use, and considerable additions to it have been made. The *Library* contains many original MSS. of the early reformers; and the *Museum of Natural History* some good specimens of Swiss minerals and fossils, together with the Herbarium of John Gessner, and a zoological collection.

The Federal Polytechnical School is established here. There were 60 pupils in 1835, and 546 in 1862.

One of the most pleasing features about Zürich is its *Promenades* and points of view. One of the best of them is an elevated mound, once forming part of the ramparts, and called *Cats' Bastion* (*Kutz*), now included in the *Botanical Garden*, which is prettily laid out in walks and shrubberies, and opened to the public without restriction, a privilege not abused: it commands a delightful view of the town, lake, and distant Alps. Nothing can be more delightful than the view at sunset from this point, extending over the smiling and populous shores of the beautiful lake to the distant peaks and glaciers of the Alps of Glarus, Uri, and Schwytz, tinged with the

most delicate pink by the sinking rays. The most prominent and interesting of the Alpine peaks seen from this, beginning at the E., are the Sentis in Appenzell, barely visible; Glärnisch, Dödi, Klariden in Glarus, Achsenburg, Rossberg, and Uri Rothstock. The collection of *Alpine Plants*, embracing 700 species, well deserves the attention of botanists.

The *Hohe Promenade*, a raised terrace, stretching above the lake from the heights E. of the town, also commands a good view, but more confined than the former.

Environs. a. The Gasthaus Zur Weid, 1 hr. walk on the Baden road, commands a magnificent view of the Alps, the town, and the vale of the Limmat.

b. The *Uetliberg*, 2792 ft. 5 m. W. of the town, one of the Albis range commands a complete panorama, and is easily accessible in 1 h. to the foot of the hill and another hour to the top. The Inn on the top is good and contains 10 rooms; it is visited for the sake of the view at sunrise, but should be avoided on Saturday evening, when it is generally crowded. Pedestrians might prefer sleeping there, to spending an idle afternoon in Zürich. From the Uetliberg to the *Albis Im* (Rte. 16) is an agreeable walk of 3 hrs.

c. On the triangular piece of ground at the junction of the Limmat and Sihl, N. of the Rly. Stat., planted with shady avenues, is a simple monument to the memory of Solomon Gessner, author of 'The Death of Abel,' who was a native of Zürich.

Zürich is historically remarkable as the place where the Reformation first commenced in Switzerland, under the guidance and preaching of Ulric Zwingli, in 1519. It had already, at an earlier period, afforded safe and hospitable shelter to Arnold of Brescia, when driven out of Italy for inveighing against the temporal power of the Pope. It was the asylum of many eminent English Protestants banished by the persecutions of the reign of Queen Mary: they met with a friendly reception from its inhabitants during their exile. The first *entire*

English version of the Bible, by Miles Coverdale, was printed here in 1535.

Zürich is the native place of Hammerlin the reformer; of Gessner the poet, and Gessner the naturalist; of Lavater; and of Pestalozzi the teacher.

The principal *Manufactures* are those of silk, the weaving of which occupies many thousands in the town and along the shores of the lake. There are one or two large cotton-factories. The Papierhof is a large paper mill, 1 m. S. of the city on the river Sihl. The cotton and silk goods made in the neighbourhood, and in other parts of the canton, are the object of an extensive commerce with Germany and Italy, and compete in price with English goods. Mr. Escher's large *manufactory of machinery* employs 700 persons, including several English overseers. Most of the iron steamers plying on the Swiss lakes are made by him, and boats, engines and all, are actually carried in pieces by carts over the St. Gothard to the Italian lakes. Many of the manufacturers of Zürich have the reputation of great wealth, without much polish; hence the expression, "Gros-sier comme un Zurichois." Those inhabitants, however, with whom the traveller comes in contact, are certainly more polished, and ready to oblige, than the generality of German Swiss.

A fine *Hospital* behind the new promenade, an *Orphan House* (Waisenhaus), an *Asylum* for blind and deaf (Blinden Institut), and a stone bridge over the river, have risen up within a few years.

English Service on Sundays in St. Ann's Church.

The *Museum* Club contains a capital reading-room, where Galignani, The Times, John Bull, Examiner, Athenæum, and Literary Gazette, Quarterly and Edinburgh Reviews are taken in; besides more than 300 of the best Continental journals. Travellers can be introduced for a few days by a member. Open 8-12 a.m. and 2-6 p.m.

Those who enter Switzerland on this side will do well to provide themselves with maps, &c., here.

Leuthold (next door to H. Baur,

speaks English) has a good collection of guide-books, maps, prints, stationery, &c. He is the publisher of an excellent map.

Booksellers—Meyer and Zeller; Orell, Fuessli & Co.; Schahelitz.

Kerez, chemist, in the Wein Platz, makes up English prescriptions.

Furrer is well recommended as a voiturier and job-master.

The *Post Office* is a handsome building, faced with Doric pillars, near the Frau-Münster Kirche, opposite H. Baur.

Baths in the lake near the Bauschanze, the purity of which is not to be surpassed.

Railways—To Basle; terminus on the Schützenplatz; to Romanshorn and Schaffhausen; to St. Gall and Rorschach; to Coire; to Berne; to Zug and Lucerne.

Steamboats go many times a day from Zürich to the other end of the lake (Rapperschwyl) and also to Schmerikon and back. The *Rigi* top may be reached from Zürich in 9 hrs., and Lucerne in 7 hrs., taking the steamboats to Horgen, and afterwards across the lake of Zug (Rte. 15); but the rlwy. to Zug is quicker.

on the heights above it there is a fine view over the lake (Rte. 8).

Weinfelden, celebrated for its wines. The council of the canton Thurgau sits here.

Müllheim.—A wooden tower has been erected on the summit of *Hohenrain*, a hill near this, on account of the extensive view. (See p. 26.)

Frauenfeld—(*Inns*: Krone, best: Hirsch)—the chief town of the canton Thurgovie (Germ. Thurgau), has 3956 Inhab.; and is situated on the river Murg, which sets in motion the wheels of several cotton, dyeing, and printing mills. It is a mean and uninteresting little place. The *Castle*, on a basement of rock fronting the Murg, was built in the 11th century, by one of the vassals of the Counts of Kyburg.

On a hill to the S. of the town stands the Capuchin Convent, founded in 1595, now occupied by only 7 or 8 brothers.

Winterthur Junct. Stat. (see Rte. 9).
ZÜRICH (Rte. 9).

ROUTE 10.

ROMANSHORN TO ZÜRICH, BY WINTER-
THUR.—RAILWAY.

Romanshorn.	Eng. m.
Weinfelden Stat.	14
Müllheim Stat.	19
Frauenfeld Stat.	25
Winterthur Stat.	35
Wallisellen Stat.	46
Orlikon Stat.	48
Zürich Stat.	51

Romanshorn (Hôtel Bodan), terminus of the N.E. Rly., and station for the steamers from Friedrichshafen, Lindau, and Bregenz,—a small village on the lake of Constance. From a château

ROUTE 12.

ZÜRICH TO BERNE, RAILWAY.

Zürich.	Eng. m.
Baden	15
Aarau	31
Herzogenbuchsee	56
Berne	80

The distance is about 80 m. The road is very circuitous; as far as Olten it is the same as to Basle (Rte. 6). At Olten it joins the Basle and Berne line (Rte. 5). The "fast train" takes very nearly 4 hrs., and most of the others a much longer time.

BERNE (Rte. 24).

ROUTE 13.

ZÜRICH TO RAGATZ, BY THE LAKES OF
ZÜRICH AND WALLENSTADT.—RAIL.

Whole distance, 64 Eng. m.

	Eng. m.
Zürich.	
Rapperschwyl (by water) about	19
Uznach (by road or rly.) . "	9
Wesen (by road or rly.) . "	11
Wallenstadt (by rly.) . "	12
Ragatz (by road or rly.) . "	13

Those who wish to enjoy fine scenery will prefer the lakes to the rly. The steamer on the Lake of Wallenstadt is given up, but travellers in settled weather will do well to hire a boat at Wesen or Wallenstadt, taking the rly. again to prosecute their journey if they are so disposed. Little will be lost by taking the rly. between Rapperschwyl and Wesen, or between Wallenstadt and Ragatz.

There are three or four trains daily each way: travellers have no difficulty in making the journey partly by water and partly by rly., so as to arrive at their journey's end by daylight.

Steamboats traverse the Lake of Zürich, to and fro, many times a day, in 2 to 2½ hours. *Steamer* also once a day to Schmerikon and back. They zigzag from one side of the lake to the other, to take in and let out passengers at the different towns.

[*Diligences, &c.*, at Horgen for Zug and Arth on the way to the Rigi (Rte. 15); and at Richterswyl for Einsiedeln and Schwytz.]

The *Lake of Zürich* has no pretensions to grandeur of scenery; that must be sought for on the silent and savage shores of the lakes of Lucerne, Brienz, and Wallenstadt; but it has a charm peculiarly its own—that of life and rich cultivation. Its borders are as a beehive, teeming with population, and are embellished and enlivened at every step by the work of man. The hills around it are less than 3000 feet above the sea, and descend in gentle slopes down to the water's edge; wooded on their tops, clad with vineyards,

orchards, and gardens on their slopes, and carpeted with verdant pastures, or luxuriantly waving crops of grain at their feet. But the principal feature in this landscape is the number of human habitations: the hills from one extremity to the other are dotted with white houses, villas of citizens, cottages, and farms, while along the margin of the lake, and on the high road, they gather into frequent clusters around a church, forming villages and towns almost without number. Every little stream descending from the hill is compelled to do duty by turning some mill; at the mouths of the valleys enormous factories are erected, and thus the shores of the lake, on either side, have the appearance of one vast and almost uninterrupted village.

The effect of this lively foreground is heightened by the appearance of the snowy peaks of the Sentis, Dödi, and Glärnisch, which are seen at different points peering above the nearer hills. The charms of the Lake of Zürich inspired the Idylls of Gessner: they are celebrated in an ode of Klopstock, and in the prose of Zimmerman. The lake is a long and narrow strip of water, about 26 miles in length from Zürich to Schmerikon, and not more than 3 broad at the widest part, between Stäfa and Wädenschwyl. The principal river falling into it is the Linth, which issues out at Zürich, under the name of Limmat.

Scarcely any of the villages or towns on the lake are remarkable, except as the seats of flourishing industry. A few only of the principal places are enumerated below, with their distance by land from Zürich. The banks are distinguished as rt. and l., in reference to the course of the Limmat.

1. The high ridge rising on the W. of Zürich, and bordering the lake for more than 12 miles, is the *Albis*.

rt. *Küssnacht*—(*Inn*: Sonne)—a village of 2114 Inhab.; not to be confounded with its namesake on the Lake of Lucerne, famous in the history of Tell.

1. *Rüschlikon*: behind this are the baths of Nydelbad, with a bath-house called Belvoir, 340 ft. above the lake.

rt. *Meilen*—(*Inns*: Löwe; Sonne)—a very considerable village of 3036 Inhab., chiefly silk-weavers, with a Gothic church, built 1490-9. In the lake opposite Meilen the first discovery of those ancient lacustrine dwelling-places, which have attracted so much attention, was made in 1854 by M. Ferdinand Keller, of Zürich. Their remains consisted of hundreds of wooden piles, of weapons of stone and of bronze, of earthen vases, rudely woven stuffs, and bones of various animals.

1. *Thalwyl*—(*Inn*: Adler.) An elegant church has been built on a terrace, whence there is a lovely panorama of the lake, with the mounts of Appensell and Glarus in the background.

Lavater is said to have written a portion of his work on Physiognomy at the parsonage of the village of Ober-Rieden, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. farther on.

1. *Horgen*—(*Inns*: Meyerhof, good, pleasant garden; Löwe, clean). Here passengers bound for Lucerne or the Rigi, by way of Zug, disembark and cross the hills (Rte. 15).

1. *Wädenschwyl*—(*Inn*: Seehof, very fair)—a pretty village of 4357 Inhab., containing silk factories. Above it stands the castle, formerly residence of the bailiff (oberamtman), now private property.

1. *Richterswyl*—(*Inn*: Drei Könige). Here is one of the largest cotton factories on the borders of the lake. The village is built on the boundary line of cantons Zürich and Schwytz; behind it, the road to Einsiedeln ascends the hills. The pilgrims bound to that celebrated shrine usually disembark here. (See Rte. 72.) *Diligences* thither in the morning, on arrival of steamers in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., and afternoon to Schwytz. Zimmerman resided here as physician, and in his work on 'Solitude' justly praises the extreme beauty of Richterswyl.

rt. *Stäfa*—(*Inns*: Krone; Sterne)—an industrious village, the largest on this side of the lake, with 3500 Inhab., by whom much silk and cotton is

woven. Göthe resided here, 1797. The extremity of the lake beyond this lies out of the limits of the canton Zürich. It has been calculated that the number of inhabitants on each of its banks, hence to the town of Zürich, a distance of 16 miles, is not less than 12,000.

On approaching Rapperschwyl and its long bridge, the pretty little isle of *Aufnau* becomes a conspicuous feature and ornament to the landscape. It has some celebrity as the retreat and burial-place of Ulric Von Hutten, a Franconian knight, the friend of Luther and Franz of Sickingen, distinguished equally for his talents and chivalrous bravery, but withal a bit of a roué. His satirical writings contributed not a little to the spread of the Reformation, but raised up against him such a host of enemies that he was forced to fly from the court of Charles V., and take refuge from their persecution, first, with Franz of Sickingen, and, after his death, in this little island. Zwingli had procured for him an asylum here, in the house of the curate, where he died a fortnight after his arrival (1523), at the age of 36. He was buried by a faithful friend, but all record of the spot in which he lies has long since disappeared.

The *Bridge of Rapperschwyl* is one of the longest in the world: it extends from the town to a tongue of land on the opposite side, completely across the lake, a distance of 4800 ft., or more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile. It is only 12 ft. broad, is formed of loose planks laid (not nailed) upon piers, and is unprovided with railing at the sides, so that only one carriage can safely pass at a time. It was originally constructed by Leopold of Austria, 1358: the existing bridge dates from 1819.

A small stone pier has been thrown out into the lake at Rapperschwyl, a little below the bridge, outside the gate of the town, to receive passengers and merchandise from the steamboat. A Federal Arsenal has been built here.

The *Railway* runs quite away from the Zürich Lake by

Wallisellen Junct. Stat., where the line to Winterthur diverges l.; next by Dübendorf and Nanikon, following the Glatt Thal, a valley teeming with manufacturing industry; and passing

Uster Stat. and Wetzikon Stat., remarkable for the lacustrine deposits found in the neighbourhood, especially at *Robenhausen* by the small Pfäffiken See. Rude structures have been found 6 ft. below a layer of peat, and with them bones of 3 species of urochs; also chamois, bisons, beavers, boars, &c., with remains of apples, pears, and cherries. View of Alps of Glarus, near

Bubikon Stat. l. rises the *Bachtel* (3444 ft. high), with an Inn on its top.—View. The Rly. does not approach the Lake of Zürich until near

rt. *Rapperschwyl Stat.* (Inns: H. du Cygne (Huber's), good and civil landlord; D. 2 fr. 50 c., D. apart 3 fr., B. 1 fr. 50 c., Br. 1 fr.;—H. du Lac;—Freihof, in the town). This is a very picturesque old town, in canton St. Gall (2500 Inhab.), still partly surrounded by walls, and surmounted by an *Old Castle* (Der Grafenburg). The Church contains some curious sacred vessels. Near it, from the terrace called *Lindenhof*, a fine view is obtained. It is about 19 m. from Zürich, and the same distance from Wesen. Roads run from hence to St. Gall, and across the bridge to Einsiedeln (Rte. 72) and Glarus, by Lachen (Rte. 74).

N.E. of Rapperschwyl is a mountain called the *Bachtel* (3674 ft.), with a small inn at the top, which is visited for the sake of the waters at Gyrenbad and of view—inferior to that from the Rigi, yet commanding an extensive panorama. The summit is most conveniently reached from the Rüti Stat. (Rte. 14) in about 2½ hrs. Mines of lignite are worked at Dürnten and Kœpfnach at the foot of the *Bachtel*.

Schmerikon Stat. (Inn: Ross), at the E. extremity of the Lake of Zürich. The castle of Grynau, on the rt., stands on the *Linth*, a little above its

entrance into the lake. Pedestrians will find the towing-path along the *Linth* canal shorter than the carriage-road from Schmerikon to Wesen.

Uznach Stat. (Inn: zum Linth-hof, very fair)—a small town of 1293 Inhab., on an eminence, the summit of which is occupied by a small square tower of the ancient castle and by that of the church. *Diligence* to Lachen, Einsiedeln, Schwytz, and Brunnen on the Lake of Lucerne. There are mines of brown coal at Oberkirch, about a mile from Uznach, in a hill 1500 ft. high. Near Uznach is an immense cotton-mill, driving 24,480 spindles, and having 100 wind-dows on each side. It is supplied with water from a mountain-torrent descending immediately behind it.

Soon after leaving Uznach, the valley of Glarus opens out into view, with the snowy mountains near its head, a very beautiful prospect. Out of this valley issues the river *Linth*, an impetuous torrent, fed by glaciers, and carrying down with it vast quantities of débris, which had accumulated to such an extent 25 years ago, that its channel was obstructed, and its bed raised many feet above the level of the lower part of the valley. From this cause arose repeated and most dangerous inundations, which covered the fertile district on its banks with stone and rubbish, and converted the meadows into a stagnant marsh. Nearly the entire valley between the lakes of Zürich and Wallenstadt was reduced to a desert, and its inhabitants, thinned in numbers by annual fevers, arising from the pestilential exhalations, abandoned the spot. The valley of the *Linth* was relieved from this calamity by Mr. Conrad Escher, who suggested to the Diet, in 1807, the ingenious plan of digging a new bed for the waters of the *Linth*, and turning it into the lake of Wallenstadt, in whose depths it might deposit the sand and gravel which it brought down, without doing any damage. He at the same time proposed to improve the issues of the lake of Wallenstadt by digging a na-

vigable canal from it to the lake of Zürich, so as to carry off the waters of the Linth, and the other streams falling into it, and cause it to drain the intervening valley, instead of inundating it. This important and useful public work was completed by Escher in 1822, and has been attended with perfect success. In consequence of it the valley is no longer sterile and unwholesome, and the high road to Wesen, which was often cut off and broken up by inroads of the river, is now carried in a straight line along its rt. bank. Immediately opposite the opening of the valley of the Linth, at whose extremity the mountains of Glarus now appear in all their grandeur, a simple *Monumental Tablet* of black marble has been let into the face of the rock by the roadside, to the memory of the public-spirited citizen who conferred this great benefit on the surrounding country. He earned from it, in addition to his name, the title *Von der Linth*, the only title which a republic could properly confer, and of which his descendants may be more proud than of that of count or baron. The total cost was 60,000*l.* The Linth is here crossed by a bridge called *Ziegelbrücke*, over which runs the road to Glarus. (Rte. 74.) Near it are a cotton manufactory and an establishment for the education of the poor of the canton Glarus. It is called the *Linth Colony*, because it owes its origin to a colony of 40 poor persons, afterwards increased to 180, who were brought hither by charitable individuals from the over-peopled villages of the canton, and settled on this spot, which was the bed of the Linth previous to Escher's improvements, in order to reclaim it by removing the stones and rubbish, and rendering it fit for cultivation. They were lodged, fed, and allowed a small sum for wages, the expense being defrayed by subscription. After having, by these means and by the correction of the Linth, described above, restored the valley to a state fit for agriculture, and having been saved themselves from starvation, in a season of scarcity,

they were dismissed to seek their fortunes with some few savings to begin the world; and, what was of more importance, with industrious habits, which they had learned while settled here. In the school which now replaces the colony, 40 children from 6 to 12 are taught, and teachers are also instructed.

The Railway runs by the side of the Linth Canal.

Ziegelbrücke Stat.

Wesen Junct. Stat. is at some distance from the village and lake. Here the rly. to Glarus branches rt.

Wesen (Inn: l'Epée) is a village of about 500 Inhab., at the W. extremity of the lake of Wallenstadt, and in the midst of scenery of great magnificence.

The ascent of the *Speer* is made in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from Wesen: it commands a noble view. From the summit the traveller may reach Nesslau in the Toggenburg (Rte. 71) in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

There is an interesting pass without any difficulties from Wesen to Wildhaus (Rte. 71) in the Toggenburg. It crosses the ridge between the Leistkamm and the Gulmen, and may be accomplished, including the ascent of the Gulmen, in 7 or 8 hours' walking. [A carriage may be hired from Wesen to the Rigi by way of Einsiedeln (Rte. 72). The road turns out of that to Zürich at the *Inn*, Zum Escher Linth, crosses the canal, and proceeds through a pretty country by Galgenen and Lachen (Öx, a good inn), where it falls into the route from Rapperschwyl.]

LAKE OF WALLENSTADT.

(More properly *Wallensee*. 48 ft. above Lake of Zürich.)

The Railway is carried along the S. shore, through 10 tunnels lighted by openings cut through the rock. The l. side of the carriage should be taken.

There is no carriage-road on either side of the lake.

Previous to the construction of the Linth canal, the only outlet for the lake of Wallenstadt was a small stream called the *Magg*, which encountered the Linth after a course of about 2

miles, and was arrested by the débris and stones brought down by that river, so that not only were its waters often dammed up behind, but the surface of the lake was raised several feet above its ordinary level, in consequence of which they overflowed the valley both above and below it, and laid the villages of Wallenstadt, at the one end, and Wesen, at the other, under water for many months during the spring. By Escher's correction of the course of the Linth, its waters are now carried into the lake, where they have already formed, by their deposit of mud and gravel, a delta nearly half a mile long. Another canal, deep and protected at the side with strong dykes, now supplies the place of the Magg, and drains the lake of Wallenstadt into that of Zürich.

The lake of Wallenstadt is about 12 miles long by 3 broad; its scenery is grand, but somewhat wanting in variety, and therefore not equal to that of the lake of Lucerne. Its N. shore consists of colossal cliffs of lime and sandstone, regularly stratified, and so nearly precipitous that there is room for no road, and only for a very few cottages at their base, while their steep surface, almost destitute of verdure, gives to this lake a savage and arid character. The S. side consists of more gradually sloping hills covered with verdure and overtopped by the tall bare peaks of more distant mountains. Here there are several villages, and a very rough and irregular path runs along it. The lake has the reputation of being dangerous to navigate, on account of sudden tempests; but in this respect it does not differ from other mountain lakes. In Jan. 1851, however, the steamer was submerged by a squall, and every soul on board, 14 in all, perished. It was fished up from a great depth.

The precipices along the N. bank vary between 2000 and 3000 feet in height, and the stranger is usually surprised to learn that above them are situated populous villages and extensive pastures crowded with cattle. Such a one is the village of Amden, containing 3000 Inhab., nearly 2500

feet above the lake, with a church, gardens, and orchards. It is approached by one narrow and steep path, which may be traced sloping upwards from Wesen along the face of the mountain. Several waterfalls precipitate themselves over this wall of rock, or descend, by gashes or rents in its sides, into the lake; but they dwindle into insignificance by the end of summer, and add no beauty to the scene. The principal ones are the Beyerbach, 900 feet high (above which lies Amden), and the Seerenbach, 1200 feet high.

The hamlet of St. Quinten is the only one on this side of the lake. At the mouths of the streams and gullies, on the opposite (S.) side there are numerous villages, such as Terzen and Quarten, whose names clearly refer to the ancient military occupation of this district by the Romans.

The rly. on quitting Wesen Stat., and leaving rt. the line to Glarus, twice crosses the Linth Canal, and is then carried along the S. side of the Wallenstadt Lake, whose precipitous rock sides are penetrated by 9 tunnels. In the intervals and through the embrasures, grand views of the lake. The very heavy outlay that must have been incurred for this portion of the line has not as yet shortened the journey from Zürich to Coire by more than 1 hr., as there is a continuous rly. line by St. Gall and Rorschach; but if the projected line into Italy by the Lukmanier should ever be completed, the Wallenstadt Rly. will become a link in the main chain of communication between Italy and the N. of Europe. At

Mühlehorn Stat. (Here is a homely little Inn.) A boat can be hired here.

Murg Stat., at the mouth of a small valley.

Near this a large cotton-factory has been built. Behind it rises the mountain Mürtchenstock. Its summit, 7270 feet high, apparently inaccessible, is traversed through and through by a cavern, which, though of large size, looks from the lake like the eye of a bodkin. The

hole is best seen when abreast of the village of Mühlehorn; by those not aware of the fact, it might be mistaken for a patch of snow. This peak is said to be a favourite resort of chamois.

The N.E. extremity of the lake is bounded by the 7 picturesque peaks of the Sieben Churfürsten, or Kurfürsten. At their feet lies

Wallenstadt Stat.—*Inns*: Aigle d'Or, near the lake, tolerable; Hirsch (Cerf, or Poste)—a scattered township of 800 Inhab.; nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the lake, of which it commands no view. The flats of the valley around and above it are marshy, and the neighbourhood was formerly very unhealthy, so long as the irregularities of the Linth obstructed the passage of the waters of the lake. Wallenstadt is a dull place, and travellers have no need to stop here.

[A steep and rugged path by the side of the Churfürsten, commanding magnificent views, leads over the Hinterruck in 6 hrs. to Wildhaus (Rte. 71), whence Appenzell may be reached in another day (Rte. 68).]

There is considerable beauty in the scenery of the valley of the Scez. There are rich iron-mines, interesting to visit, in the Gonzen Mount above Scez; their yearly yield is 50,000 cwt. As the ore is hematite, everything is reddened that belong to the miners, even their cats. A good climber will enjoy a scramble to the top of the Gonzen, one of the finest panoramic views of the Rigi class. A ladder of 50 steps, chained against the face of a cliff, has to be surmounted.

Mels Stat. (*Inn*: *Krone). The rly. enters the valley of the Rhine near

Sargans Junct. Stat., some way from

Sargans—(*Inns*: Rossli; Löwe), a picturesque old town of 723 Inhab., on an eminence surmounted by a castle, near the junction of the roads from St. Gall and Zürich to Coire. It stands upon the watershed dividing the streams which feed the Rhine from those which fall into the lake of Wallenstadt; and this natural embankment is so slight about 200 paces across and less than

20 feet high) that, as the deposits brought down by the Rhine are constantly raising its bed, it is not impossible, though scarcely probable, that the river may change its course, relinquish its present route by the lake of Constance, and take a shorter cut by the lakes of Wallenstadt and Zürich. It was calculated by Escher von der Linth, from actual measurements, that the waters of the Rhine need rise but $19\frac{1}{2}$ feet to pass into the lake of Wallenstadt; and it is, indeed, recorded that the river, swollen by long rains in 1618, was prevented taking this direction only by the construction of dams along its banks. Geologists argue, from the identity of the deposits of gravel in the valley of the Upper Rhine with those in the vale of Scez, that the river actually did pass out this way at one time. The rly. from Zürich by Winterthur, St. Gall, and Rorschach falls in here.

The remainder of this route up the valley of the Rhine, by

Ragatz Stat. (Rte. 66) to

Coire Terminus, is described in Rte. 66.

ROUTE 15.

ZÜRICH TO LUCERNE AND THE RIGI,* BY
HORGEN, ZUG, AND IMMENSEE.

Eng. m. hrs. min.

Zürich.		
Horgen (steamer) . . .	9	= 1
Zug (diligence) . . .	13½	= 3½
Immensee (steamer) . .	6	= 1
Küssnacht (diligence) .	2½	= 30
Lucerne (steamer) . . .	5	= 30
	35	= 7 0

The Rly. from Zürich to Lucerne is in Rte. 16.

This is a very pleasant expedition in fine weather. The times above given are those actually occupied, including stoppages, which are of course considerable. Passengers can book through from Zürich, and have no trouble with their luggage, fare 7 fr. 40. The steamers are so arranged as to meet

* See Map, p. 51.

the diligences, and, what with hills and stoppages, a tolerable pedestrian can cross from Horgen to Zug, and from Immensee to Küssnacht, as fast as the diligence. The summit of the Rigi may be reached by Immensee or Arth in 9 or 10 hrs. from Zürich. Those bound for this excursion will do well to leave Zürich by the first steamboat in the morning, so as not to be hurried in the ascent, and to find rooms at Rigi Kulm Hotel. Those who neglect this precaution should use the telegraph to secure rooms.

Horgen (Inns: Meyerhoff, pleasantly situated; Löwe). Up to this place see Rte. 14. Passengers are made to walk nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the quay to the diligence office: those who mean to hire a carriage to Zug (12 or 14 fr.) should send up for one. A brown coal or lignite is found here; not fit, however, for steam-boilers. The road immediately begins to ascend by a series of zigzags, affording fine views over the lake; and from a spot called *Bocke*, about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. off the road, a still finer view is obtained. The ascent occupies full $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr., after which the descent is at once commenced, the road running for the most part along the rt. bank of the *Sihl*, crossing it at the village of

Sihlbrücke, by a covered bridge, which conducts from canton Zürich into canton Zug. [A good road leads l. from Sihlbrücke ($2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. on foot) to Egeri and its lake (Rte. 72). The new watering-place of Schönbrunn is halfway. Egeri is a thriving town, from its cotton manufacture and embroidery. (Inn: Good but homely quarters at the Wirthschaft and Brauerei.) The Lake of Egeri 2383 ft., is romantic in scenery. Zug may be reached from Egeri in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. by following the river that issues from the lake to the paper-mill; then crossing it and keeping above Allenwinden.] From the ridge which succeeds, the Rigi and Pilatus mountains are first seen.

Baar (numerous inns), an extensive village with a large cotton-mill. [A path through the forest leads direct to Schönbrunn.]

Zug (Inns: Hirsch (Cerf), good; Löwe, civil, and well situated; Couronne; Bellevue) — capital of canton Zug, in size the smallest state of the Confederation, has 3323 Inhab., and is prettily situated at the N.E. corner of the lake. It has an antiquated look, surrounded by its old walls, and, being without trade, has a silent and deserted air. Its inhabitants, exclusively Roman Catholics, are chiefly occupied with agricultural pursuits. The rich crops, vineyards, orchards, and gardens, on the borders of the lake, proclaim a soil not ungrateful to the cultivator.

There is a *Capuchin Convent* and a *Nunnery* here. The picture by Carracci in the former, mentioned by the guide-books, is none of his, but is by an inferior artist, Fiamingo, and of no great merit.

There are some old arms in the *Arsenal*, and a standard taken at Arbedo.

The *Ch. of St. Michael*, a little way outside of the town, like many of the churches in the Roman Catholic cantons, has a curious *bonehouse* attached to it, containing many hundred skulls, each inscribed with the name of its owner. It is the custom for the relations of the dead to cause their skulls to be taken up, cleaned, labelled with their names and date of birth and death, and then placed in the bonehouse! The churchyard in which it stands is filled with quaint gilt crosses by way of monuments, and the graves are planted with flowers. The *Cemetery* deserves a visit; the display of armorial bearings, coats, and crests, even on the humblest tomb, is remarkable.

It is recorded that in the year 1435 a part of the foundations of the town, weakened probably by an attempt to draw off part of the water of the lake, gave way, whereby two streets, built on the ground nearest the water, were broken off and submerged; 26 houses were destroyed, and 45 human beings perished; among them the chief magistrate of the town. His child, an infant, was found floating in his cradle, on the surface of the lake; he was

rescued, and afterwards became landmann of the canton.

At *Felsenegg*, on the mountain above the town, a pension has been built by the proprietor of the Bellevue in Zug. It is frequented as a watering-place; pension 4 to 5 fr. a day, is reached in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. by a good carriage-road.

Railway to Lucerne, winding round the N.E. and N. shores of the Lake of Zug (Rte. 16).

Passengers for Arth or Immensee may proceed either by road or by steamer. Time for dinner is allowed to those who have come by diligence from Horgen before the starting of the steamers, which touch first at Immensee and then at Arth. (Rte. 17.)

An excellent road to Arth winds round the base of the Rossberg, famous for the catastrophe caused by the fall of a portion of it. (See R. 17.) Near the chapel of St. Adrian a small monument has been erected on the spot where the arrow is supposed to have fallen which Henry von Hunenberg shot out of the Austrian lines into the Swiss camp, before the battle of Morgarten, bearing the warning words, "Beware of Morgarten." It was in consequence of this that the confederates occupied the position indicated, and it contributed mainly to their victory on that memorable field. Morgarten (Rte. 72) lies within this canton, about 14 m. W. of Zug, on the lake of Egeri.

Arth — Inns: Schwarzer Adler (Black Eagle), good, but bad smells; Hotel du Rigi—a village of 2129 Inh., occupies a charming position on the lake of Zug, between the base of the Rigi and the Rossberg. There is a Capuchin convent here. In the *Treasury of the Church* some interesting curiosities are preserved, including an ancient and richly-worked crucifix and chalice of silver, which belonged to Charles the Bold, and were left by him to his Swiss conquerors on the field of Grandson, besides some gaudy priests' robes. It is about 3 m. by the road which winds along the base of the Rigi to

Immensee. Inn: H. du Rigi, com-

fortable and moderate. Omnibus to Küssnacht.

The Lake of Zug, whose surface is 1340 feet above the sea, is 8 m. long, and about $\frac{3}{4}$ broad. Its banks are low, or gently-sloping hills, except on the S. side, where the Rigi, rising abruptly from the water's edge, presents its precipices towards it, forming a feature of considerable grandeur, in conjunction with the Pilatus rising behind it. The *Rufi*, or *Ross-berg*, rising in the S.E. corner, is also lofty and steep; the lake, at its base, is not less than 1200 ft. deep.

For a description of the road between Immensee and Lucerne see Rte. 17.

ASCENT OF THE RIGI.

The *Rigi*, or *Righi* (*Regina Montium* is only a fanciful derivation of the name), a mountain, or rather group of mountains, rising between the lakes of Zug and Lucerne, owes its celebrity not to its height, for it is only 5905 ft. above the sea, or 3537 ft. above the Lake of Zug, but to its isolated situation; which converts it into a natural observatory. It has also the advantage of being very accessible; no less than 6 mule-paths lead up to the summit, so that it is daily resorted to in summer by hundreds of travellers of all countries and ages, and of both sexes. The upper part of the mountain is composed, like the Rossberg, of the brecciated rock called Nagelfluë. Externally, the entire summit is clothed with verdant pastures, which support more than 3000 head of cattle in summer, and the middle and lower region are girt round with forests.

Owing to the uncertainty of the atmosphere at high elevations, travellers should prepare themselves for disappointment, since the trouble of an ascent is often repaid with clouds and impenetrable mist, instead of a fine sunrise and extensive prospect. He is wise, therefore, who, in fine weather, manages to reach the summit before the sun goes down—he, at least, has two chances of a view. It not unfrequently happens, however, that the traveller who has commenced the

ascent in sunshine and under a clear sky is overtaken by clouds and storms before he reaches the top.

Horses and Guides.

There are 5 principal bridle-paths to the top of the Rigi:—

- a. from Goldau or Arth.
- b. from Immensee.
- c. from Küssnacht.
- d. from Weggis or Fitznau.
- e. from Gersau.

The summit may be reached in 10 hrs. from Zürich by Immensee or Goldau, and in 4 or 5 hrs. from Lucerne by Küssnacht (Rte. 17) or Weggis. At all these places, and at most of the villages round the mountain, horses, guides, and porters may be procured at prices regulated by tariff.

The usual charge for a horse is 10 fr. to the top (including toll for road), and 6 to return next day by the same road; $7\frac{1}{2}$ by a different road on the opposite side of the mountain, with a drink-money of 1 fr. or 2 fr. a-day to the boy who leads the horses. A porter, to carry baggage, 6 fr. and 3 to return. A horse may be hired for 6 fr. up to the convent of Maria zum Schnee, below which is the steepest part of the ascent. *Chaises à porteur* may be procured for ladies who do not like to ride or walk, and each bearer receives 6 fr. up or 9 fr. up and down. At Weggis and elsewhere a boy to show the path, who will carry a light knapsack, may be hired for $1\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 fr. In the height of summer, when the concourse of visitors is immense, those who are anxious may send up a telegraphic despatch from Zürich or Lucerne (charge 1 fr.) to secure beds at the Rigi-kulm inn, and for a franc extra, before starting, you may ascertain the number of the room secured for you. The pedestrian, unless he desire to be relieved of his baggage, has not much need of a guide, as the paths are most distinctly marked, and are traversed by so many persons that he can scarcely miss his way. To those who ride on horseback, the man who leads the horse will serve as guide.

a. *Ascent from Goldau, or Arth.*

	hrs.	min.
Goldau, or Arth		
Unter Dächli	1	0
Maria zum Schnee . .	0	50
Staffel	0	45
Kulm	0	40

Goldau (Rte. 17) may be reached from Arth in 20 min. by omnibus. It is generally preferred as a starting-point, and all things considered it is the best, because the ascent from Arth, before it joins the Goldau track, is steeper and more difficult for horses. There is an advantage in ascending the Rigi from this side, because the path runs along a deep gully in the interior of the mountain, the sides of which protect the traveller from the afternoon sun (a thing of importance), and shut out all view until the summit is reached, where it bursts at once upon the sight: the other paths wind round the exterior of the mountain.

From Goldau the path strikes at once from the inn of the Cheval Blanc up the side of the mountain; at first across fields strewn with blocks from the Rossberg, which, by the force acquired in their descent down one side of the valley, were actually carried up the opposite slope.

Near a small public-house, called *Unter Dächli*, where the guides usually stop to give breath to their animals and a glass of schnaps to themselves, the path was very steep, but has lately been improved.

This is a good point for surveying the fall of the Rossberg in the vale of Goldau below. The long train of rubbish thrown down by that convulsion can be traced stretching across to the lake of Löwertz, which it partly filled up (see Rte. 17). The steep footpath from Arth falls into our road here. Here begin "the Stations," a series of 13 rude pictures fastened upon poles, each representing an event in our Lord's Passion, which lead up to the pilgrimage ch. Mary-of-the-Snow or *Klösterli*. At the chapel of Malchus, containing the Bearing of the Cross, the path from Löwertz falls into our route, and soon afterwards there is a steep path on

the rt. leading towards the Culm, but avoiding Maria zum Schnee and the Staffel. Pedestrians sometimes go that way, but the track is ill-marked and the ground so rough that it is generally found to take more time than the regular path.

Maria zum Schnee is a little ch. much frequented by pilgrims, especially on the 5th of August, on account of the indulgences granted by the Pope at the end of the 17th century to all who make this pious journey. Adjoining it is a small *hospice*, klösterli, inhabited all the year by 3 or 4 Capuchin brothers, who do the duty of the church, being deputed by the fraternity at Arth on this service. The church is surrounded by a group of inns and pensions, the best of which (the *Sonne* and *Schwerdt*) are sometimes resorted to by invalids, who repair hither to drink goat's whey, and might even afford a homely lodging to travellers benighted or unable to find room in the two inns on the top of the mountain: the others are public-houses, chiefly occupied by pilgrims. A very steep road and a very long half-hour's walking, up sloping meadows, brings the traveller to the inn called Rigi-Staffel. (See p. 45.)

The ascent from *Arth* is by a steep path which falls into the Goldau path in about an hour, as above mentioned.

b. Ascent from Immensee.

This track is rather less steep, and about a mile longer, than that from Arth or Goldau; but as it lies in great part along a projecting ridge or spur of the mountain, it is much exposed to the afternoon sun, and therefore very hot. Those who have not dined at the inn at Immensee may find good bread, milk, butter, &c., at a neat chalet below the steeper part of the ascent. About half way up this joins the path from Küssnacht.

c. Ascent from Küssnacht.

Küssnacht is reached by steamer from Lucerne, and the ascent requires 3 hrs. to mount, $2\frac{1}{2}$ to descend. A mule-path, as long as that from Goldau, and in some places more steep. A toll

is paid on this road for mules. By a détour of $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour, Tell's Chapel (see Rte. 17) may be visited in going or returning. Leaving Küssnacht and passing on the l. the ruins of Gessler's Castle (Rte. 17), the path is carried in zigzags up the steepest part of the mountain, through forests, and across the pastures called Seeboden. The lake of Lucerne is in sight almost the whole way. The horse-path emerges on the brow of the hill in front of the Staffel inn, but a steep foot-path strikes off to the l. some distance below, and leads direct to the very top.

d. Ascent from Weggis.

	hrs.	min.
Weggis.		
Heiligenkreutz.	1	0
Kaltbad	1	0
Staffel	0	40
Kulm	0	40

It is best to *descend* from the Rigi top to Weggis, and there take the steamer.

Weggis. Inns: Eintracht (Concordia); Löwe (Lion)—a small village on a little ledge at the foot of the Rigi, on the lake of the Four Cantons, is the spot where those who approach the Rigi by water, from Lucerne, land. It supports more than 40 horses, and guides in corresponding numbers. The steamer to and from Lucerne and Flüelen touches here 6 times daily ($\frac{3}{4}$ hr.). A bad path, winding round the foot of the Rigi, connects Weggis with Küssnacht; but the chief communication is carried on by water.

The mule-path up the Rigi from Weggis is steeper than the three preceding: $3\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. up; $2\frac{1}{2}$ down. It strikes up the mountain immediately opposite the landing-place, and keeping to the rt. winds along the outside of the mountain, in constant view of the lake, passing, first, the little chapel of Heiligenkreutz (Holy Cross), and then leading up to a singular natural arch (called Hochstein, or Felsenthor), formed by 2 vast detached blocks of nagelflue (pudding-stone), holding suspended a third, beneath which the path is carried. These broken fragments serve to illustrate the tendency which

this rock has to cleave and split, and to this cause may be attributed a singular torrent of mud, which, in the year 1795, descended from the flank of the Rigi upon the village of Weggis, destroying 30 houses and burying nearly 60 acres of good land. It advanced slowly, like a lava-current, taking a fortnight to reach the lake, so that the inhabitants had time to remove out of its way. It is supposed to have been produced by springs, or rain-water, percolating the cracks of the nagelfluë, and converting the layer of clay, which separates it from the beds beneath it, into soft mud. Had there been any great fracture in the nagelfluë, it is probable that a large portion of the mountain would have given way and slipped down into the lake, since the strata of the Rigi slope at a very steep angle. Had this been the case, a catastrophe, similar to that of the Rossberg, might have ensued. As it was, the softened clay was squeezed out by the weight of the superincumbent mass of the mountain, and formed this deluge of mud, traces of which are still visible on the side of the mountain.

A little beyond the arch the path begins to turn to the l. or N., and then, at the point where the branch-path diverges to Klösterli, comes to the *Cold Bath* (kaltes Bad), where a source of very pure cold water, 41° Fahr., issuing out of the rock, supplies the bathing establishment of

Rigi Kaltbad, 4727 ft. (3310 ft. above Lake of Lucerne), a handsome, well-furnished *Hotel*, affording every comfort and accommodation for 140 guests; house well warmed; table-d'hôte, and good cook; a fine healthy situation, overlooking the lake, and sheltered from the N. and W. (breakfast at 8, dinner at 12, tea at 4, supper at 8). Reading-room. Baths and whey. Post to and from Lucerne daily. Telegraph stat. The season is from June to the middle of September. The society is chiefly German, and good. *Walks* to the Känzeli, fronting Pilatus (10 min.), and on to the Rothstock, grand sunset view, 1½ h.; to the Kulm, 1 hr.; to Klös-

terli, ¾ hr.; to the Dossen, 1½ hr.; to Rigi Scheideck, 2 hrs.; to the Sta-lactite Caves on the road to Fitznau, 1 hr.; to Weggis, 1½ hr.; to Arth, 2 hrs.

It was once the custom for patients at the Kaltbad to lie down in the bath with their clothes on, and afterwards to walk about in the sun until they dried on the back; but this method is no longer regarded as essential to effect a cure. Close to the cold-bath is a little chapel dedicated to the Virgin, to which pilgrims repair, and in which mass is daily said for the shepherds on the Rigi.

The spring is called the *Sisters' Fountain*, from a tradition that 3 fair sisters sought refuge here from the pursuit of a wicked and tyrannical Austrian bailiff, and spent the remainder of their days amidst the clefts of the rocks in the exercise of piety.

The path, after leaving the Kaltbad, keeps a N.W. direction till it reaches the S.W. angle of the mountain, leaving on the left of the path some projecting spurs, which furnish admirable points of view, in some respects superior to that from the summit. Then turning N.E. across pastures, the path reaches the *Staffel* (see below).

Whatever route may be chosen for the ascent, there can be no doubt that the descent should be made to Weggis. The varied and exquisite views of the Lake of Lucerne and the opposite ranges of Uri and Unterwalden are often found to leave a more permanent impression than the panorama from the summit.

e. Ascent from Gersau.

(Rte. 18.) 4½ hrs.

Crossing the meadows, and by a cascade of the Roehrlibach, and amongst huge blocks of fallen rock, the little inn of Unter Geschwänd is reached (1¼ hr.). After passing the chapel of St. Joseph, and taking care to keep to the l., the baths and hotel are reached of

Rigi Scheideck, which accommodates 150 visitors. Magnificent view, partly differing from that from the Kulm.

Many pleasant walks. The Scheideck is 3 hrs. from Gersau, and thence in 1 hr. Maria zum Schnee, on the Goldau track, is reached.

There are several other paths up the Rigi more or less fit for horses; one of the most interesting is that to *Fitznau*. From the *Staffelhaus* this path diverges l., passing a waterfall, behind which is a cavern, the vestibule of which is 100 ft. deep, and it is said to lead to others penetrating *through* the mountain. In *Fitznau* on the lake of Lucerne is a neat little *Inn*. The daughters of the house are good singers. Thence by boat in 1 hr. to Buochs. Another way is from Lowertz (Rte. 17).

Summit of the Rigi.

All the principal paths converge and unite in front of the *Staffelhaus*, a tolerable inn, cheaper than the *Kulm*, perhaps, but kept by the same family. It is $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour's walk below the *Kulm*, and it is a bad plan to stop short of it, since those who rest here must get up half an hour earlier next morning if they wish to catch the sunrise from the top.

The *Kulm*, or culminating point of the Rigi, is an irregular space of ground of some extent, destitute of trees, but covered with turf. A few feet from the top stands the *Inn*, a group of large buildings, affording good accommodation, considering the height, which exceeds that of the most elevated mountain in Britain, being 5676 ft. above the sea level, and 4270 ft. above the Lake of Lucerne. An enormous building was added in 1857, containing a vast *salle-à-manger*, and many other rooms. Unfortunately it is so near the top, and so high, as partially to interfere with the view. *Charges*: tea or breakfast, $1\frac{1}{2}$ F. fr.; supper ($\frac{3}{4}$ hr. after sunset), without wine, 4 fr.; bedroom, 3 fr.; servants, 1 fr. About 20,000 persons are said to visit this hotel in a year! The arrangements are generally good, but complaints of inattention and incivility are sometimes made. It is fair to remember that the constant pressure of a crowd of hungry and impatient guests must try to the

very utmost the patience and activity of the entire household. Travellers not on foot should bring cloaks with them, as the cold is often intense; and the thermometer marking 76° in Lucerne at midday, was 37° on the Rigi at sunset, and 31° at sunrise. The house is warmed with stoves even in summer. The following notice is hung up in every room:—"On avertit MM. les étrangers qu'il est défendu de prendre les couvertures de lit pour sortir au sommet;" a threat which seems more likely to have suggested than prevented the commission of so comfortable an offence. In 1855 the landlord paid for a piece of ground on which the new building stands (96 ft. by 55 ft.), no less than 54,000 fr., or more than 2000*l.* to the canton.

During the height of summer, when travellers are most numerous, the *Kulm* inn is crammed to overflowing every evening; numbers are turned away from the doors, and it is not easy to procure beds, food, or even attention. In the evening the guests are collected at a *table-d'hôte* supper; after which most persons are glad to repair to rest. It takes some time, however, before the hubbub of voices and the trampling of feet subside; and, not unfrequently, a few roystering German students prolong their potations and noise far into the night. The beds, besides, are not very inviting to repose; and are often damp, though of the thousands who annually visit the Rigi none ever appear to suffer from it. Whether the inmate have slept or not, he, together with the whole household, is roused about an hour before sunrise by the grating sounds of a long wooden horn, which is played until every particle of sleep is dispelled from the household. Then commences a general stir and commotion, and everybody hastens out with shivering limbs and half-open eyes to gaze at the glorious prospect of a sunrise from the Rigi. Fortunately are they for whom the view is not marred by clouds and rain, a very common occurrence, as the leaves of the *Album* kept in the inn will

testify. Indeed the following verses describe the fate of a large majority of those who make this expedition:—

Nine weary uphill miles we sped,

The setting sun to see;

Sulky and grim he went to bed,

Sulky and grim went we.

Seven sleepless hours we tossed, and then,

The rising sun to see,

Sulky and grim we rose again,

Sulky and grim rose he.

Long before dawn an assemblage of between 200 and 300 persons is often collected on the Rigi Culm, awaiting the sunrise, to enjoy this magnificent prospect in the cold. A glare of light in the E., which gradually dims the flickering of the stars, is the first token of the morning; it soon becomes a streak of gold along the horizon, and is reflected in a pale pink tint upon the snows of the Bernese Alps. Summit after summit slowly catches the same golden hue; the dark space between the horizon and the Rigi is next illuminated; forests, lakes, hills, rivers, towns and villages, gradually become revealed, but look cold and indistinct until the red orb surmounts the mountain top, and darts his beams across the landscape. The shadows are then rolled back, as it were, and in a few moments the whole scene around is glowing in sunshine. The view is best seen during the quarter of an hour preceding and following the first appearance of the sun; after that the mists begin to curl up, and usually shroud parts of it from the eye.

The most striking portion of this wonderful panorama, which is said to extend over a circumference of 300 m., is undoubtedly the lakes of Lucerne and Zug; the branching arms of the former extend in so many different directions as to bewilder one at first, and both lave the base of the mountain so closely that the spectator might fancy himself suspended in the air above them, as in a balloon, and think, by one step from the brow of the precipice, to plunge into them. The peculiar greenish blue tint which sheets of water assume when seen from a height has also something exceed-

ingly beautiful. Eight other lakes may be seen from the Rigi, but they are so small and distant as to "look like pools; some almost like water spilt upon the earth."

On the N. side the eye looks down into the lake of Zug, and the streets of Arth; at the end of the lake the town of Zug, and behind it the spire of the Ch. of Kappel, where Zwingli, the Reformer, fell in battle. This is backed by the chain of the Albis, and through gaps in its ridge may be discerned a few of the houses of the town of Zürich, and two little bits of its lake. Over the l. shoulder of the Rossberg a peep is obtained into the lake of Egeri, on whose shores the Swiss gained the victory of Morgarten. The N. horizon is bounded by the range of the Black Forest hills.

The prospect on the W. is more open and map-like, and therefore less interesting. Close under the Rigi lie Tell's chapel, on the spot where he shot Gessler, and the village and bay of Küsnacht. Farther off, nearly the whole canton of Lucerne expands to view;—the Reuss winding through the midst of it. Above the Reuss is the lake of Sempach, the scene of another triumph of Swiss valour. Lucerne, with its coronet of towers, is distinctly seen at the W. end of the lake, and on the l. of it rises the gloomy Pilatus, cutting the sky with its serrated ridge. The remainder of the W. horizon is occupied by the chain of the Jura.

On the S. the mass of the Rigi forms the foreground, and touching the opposite mountains of Unterwalden, only allows here and there a small portion of the lake of Lucerne to be seen. On this side the objects visible in succession, from rt. to l., are the lakes of Alpnach and Sarnen, buried in woods, by the side of which runs the road to the Brünig; the mountains called Stanzer and Buochserhorn, and behind them the magnificent white chain of the high Alps of Berne, Unterwalden, and Uri, in one unbroken ridge of peaks and glaciers, including the Jungfrau, Eiger, Finster Aarhorn, the Titlis (the highest peak in Unterwalden), the Uri Rothstock, and

the Bristenstock, between which and the Seelisberg runs the road of St. Gothard.

On the E. the Alpine chain continues to stretch uninterruptedly along the horizon, and includes the pre-eminent peaks of the Dödi, on the borders of the Grisons, of the Glärnisch, in canton Glarus, and of the Sentis, in Appenzell. In the middle distance, above the lake of Löwertz, lies the town of Schwytz, the cradle of Swiss freedom, backed by the two singular sharp peaks called, from their shape, the Mitres (Mythen). Above them peers the craggy crest of the Glärnisch; and to the rt. of them is the opening of the Muotta Thal, famous for the bloody conflicts between Suwarrow and Massena, where armies manœuvred and fought on spots which before the shepherd and chamois hunter alone used to tread. Farther to the l. rises the mass of the Rossberg,—the nearest mountain neighbour of the Rigi. The whole scene of desolation caused by its fall (see Rte. 17); the chasm on the top, whence the ruin came; the course of the terrific avalanche of stones, diverging and spreading in their descent; the lake of Lowertz, partly filled up by it, and the pools and puddles caused in the valley by the stoppage of the watercourses, are at once displayed in a bird's-eye view.

The very distant bare peak seen above the top of the Rossberg is the Sentis.

The *Spectre of the Rigi* is an atmospheric phenomenon not unfrequently observed on the tops of high mountains. It occurs when the cloudy vapours happen to rise perpendicularly from the valley beneath the mountain, on the side opposite to the sun, without enveloping the summit of the Rigi itself. Under these circumstances the shadows of the Rigi Kulm and of any person standing on the top are cast upon the wall of mist in greatly magnified proportions. The shadow is encircled by a halo, assuming the prismatic colours of the rainbow, and this sometimes doubled when the mist is thick.

Two melancholy accidents have occurred on the top of the Rigi:—in 1820 a guide who had attended an

English family was struck dead by lightning as he stood watching the clouds: in 1826 a Prussian officer, who had reached the summit, accompanied by his wife and children, fell from a very dangerous seat which he had selected on the brow of a precipice (the only spot where the summit is really a precipice), and was dashed to pieces at the bottom. According to another account, the miserable man threw himself off, having previously announced his intention of committing suicide to his wife, who summoned the guide to arrest him, but, after a severe struggle, her husband got loose, and effected his purpose.

ROUTE 16.

ZÜRICH TO LUCERNE, OVER THE ALBIS,
OR BY RAILWAY.

The direct Rly. from Zürich to Zug and Lucerne (4 trains daily in less than 2 hrs.) opened 1864.

Stations.	Eng. m.
Urdorf	
Bonstetten	
Affoltern	
Mettmanshausen	
Zug	
Chaaam	
Rothkreutz	
Sisikon	
Ebikon	
Lucerne	

In fine weather it is worth while to take the carriage-road over the *Albis* for the sake of the very beautiful view of the chain of the Alps, and of a large part of Switzerland, which is seen from its summit. The distance is about 38 m., and the diligence takes more than 6 hrs. to accomplish it. The road skirts the shore of the lake at first, but at Adliswyli, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. it crosses the river Sihl, and soon after in numerous zigzags begins to ascend to 4 m. *Ober-Albis. Inn*: Hirsch, which affords moderate accommodation and a magnificent prospect. The best point, however, for seeing the view, is the *Signal* (Hochwacht, called also Schnabel), a height off the road, about a mile above the inn: it takes in nearly the whole of the Zürichsee. At the foot of the mountain, between

it and the lake, the vale of the Sihl intervenes. Its wooded slopes were the favourite retreat of the pastoral poet Gessner; they were occupied in 1799 by two hostile armies—that of the French under Massena, who encamped on the slope of the Albis, and that of the Russians, who occupied the rt. bank of the Sihl. They watched each other from hence for more than 3 months; until Massena, by a masterly movement, crossed the Limmat, cut off part of the Russian force, and compelled the rest to a hasty retreat. On the W. are seen the little lake of Türl, the bath at Wengi, near Aengst, and at a distance of 10 miles the beautiful convent of Muri in Argovie. Not far from the lake is the church of Kappel, where Zwingli died; farther off the lake of Zug, and behind it tower the Rigi and Pilatus mountains, disclosing between them a little bit of the lake of Lucerne. The grandest feature, however, of the view is the snowy chain of the Alps, from the Sentis to the Jungfrau, which fills up the horizon. It has been engraved by Keller.

In posting you must take an extra horse (renfort) either from Zürich or Zug up to the summit; 1 post is charged. The greatest height which the road attains is 2404 ft. above the sea, 1000 ft. above Zürich lake, after which it descends, passing on the rt. the little lake of Türl.

The road is carried along the W. slope of the Albis, from its summit to Hausen, near which village is 3 m. *Albisbrunn*, a large and handsome water-cure establishment, in which travellers in general are also received at the rate of 5 fr. a day, board and lodging. It is a pleasant residence from the beauties of its situation, its views of the Bernese Alps, and the salubrity of its air and water. It is under the management of Dr. Brunner.

Beyond Hausen the road passes 1 m. *Kappel*, a village of 600 Inhab., which has obtained a woful celebrity in Swiss history as the spot where the Confederates, embittered against each other by religious discord, dyed their hands in the blood of one another, and where Zwingli

the reformer fell, Oct. 11th, 1531. Many of the best and bravest of the citizens of Zürich perished on that day of civil broil. Zwingli, who, in accordance with the custom of the time and country, attended his flock to the field of battle, to afford them spiritual aid and consolation, was struck down in the fight, and found by a soldier of Unterwalden, who did not know him, but who, ascertaining that he refused to call on the Virgin and saints, despatched him with his sword. His body, when recognised by his foes, was burnt by the common hangman. A monument, consisting of a rough massive block of stone by the road-side, has taken the place of the tree which marked the spot where he fell. The *Gothic church* of Kappel, anciently attached to a convent suppressed soon after the commencement of the Reformation, was built in 1280.

In descending from Ober-Albis, Zug may be avoided altogether, and the shorter road by *Knonau* taken.

The *Rhwy. from Zurich* (4 trains daily in 2½ to 3 hrs.) quits the line to Olten at Altstetten Junct. Stat., after crossing the Sihl. Beyond Bonstetten Stat. it penetrates a tunnel. Near Affoltern Stat. l. lies the Lake of Türl (see above). The stream of the Lorze, descending from the Lake of Egeri, is crossed before reaching

¼ m. *Zug Stat.* (Rte. 15).

The Rly. to Lucerne skirts the N. shore of the Lake of Zug, by

Chaam Stat. (Inn: Rabe). At Rothkreutz the rly. enters the valley of the Reuss, which is crossed by a long iron bridge beyond

Ebikon Stat.

LUCERNE *Terminus* (Luzern). *Inns*: H. des Suisses (Schweizer Hof);* Englischer Hof; both good; views from the windows of both superb;—H. du Rigi, comfortable, enlarged;—Schwann, much improved, a really good house and civil people. These 4 Inns face the lake, and are near the steamers. Balances (Waage), good; very cheap; en pension, 5 fr. a day; good

* Perhaps rather fallen off, 1863.

Tavel wine. As the principal hotels are sometimes full, it may be useful to give a list of the second-rate houses, arranged as far as known in the order of merit—Rössli, Adler, Hirsch, Möhren, Kreuz, Wilder Mann. In and about Lucerne are many *Pensions*—Worley's English Boarding-house, clean and comfortable. Pension Morel, comfortable; Müller's Hôtel et Pension Seeburg, half an hour's walk from the town, fine views; Kaufmann's and Damman's *Pensions* are also well spoken of.

Lucerne, chief town of the canton, lies at the N.W. extremity of the lake of Lucerne, and is divided into two parts by the river Reuss, which here issues out of it. Its population is about 11,600, all Roman Catholics, except about 680 Protestants. Lucerne is the residence of the Papal Nuncio.

It is not a place of any considerable trade or manufactures, but their absence is more than compensated by the exquisitely beautiful scenery in which it is situated on the borders of the finest and most interesting of the Swiss lakes, between the giants Pilatus and Rigi, and in sight of the snowy Alps of Schwytz and Engelberg. The town is still surrounded on the land side by a long wall, with numerous picturesque watch-towers, erected in 1385; but its chief peculiarity is its bridges. The lowest, or *Mill-bridge*, is hung with paintings, nearly washed out, of the Dance of Death: the second or *Reussbrücke*, is the only one uncovered and passable for carriages; the upper, or *Kapellbrücke*, a cool and shady walk in a hot day, runs in a slanting direction across the mouth of the Reuss, whose clear and pellucid sea-green waters may here be surveyed to great advantage, as they rush beneath it with the swiftness of a mountain torrent. Against the timbers supporting the roof of this bridge are suspended 77 pictures; those seen in crossing from the rt. to the l. bank represent the life and acts of St. Leger and St. Maurice, Lucerne's patron saints. The subjects of those seen in the opposite direction are taken from Swiss history, and are not without some merit, but, being lighted only

by the glare reflected upwards from the water, are not easily distinguished. Near the middle of the Kapell-brücke, rising out of the water, stands a very picturesque watch-tower, called *Wasserthurm*, forming a link of the old fortifications of the town. It is said to have once served as a light-house (*Lucerna*) to boats, and hence some have derived the present name of Lucerne. The *Hofbrücke*, the longest of all the bridges, was entirely removed, 1852: the intervening space between it and the shore having been filled up. The Hôtel des Suisses and Swan and a fine row of houses stand on this space, which is also the landing-place of the steamboats.

In churches and other public buildings Lucerne has no very prominent objects. The church of *St. Leger*, also called *Hof- or Stiftskirche*, is modern, except the two towers, which date from 1506. The bells in it are fine and curious. The adjoining churchyard is filled with quaint old monuments, and the view from the cloister windows is fine.

Post and Telegraph-office, on the l. bank of the Reuss, near the Jesuits' ch.

The old *Arsenal* (Zeughaus), near the gate leading to Berne, is one of those venerable repositories common to the chief towns of all the cantons, in which are deposited the muskets, artillery, &c., for arming their contingents of troops. It contains some rusty suits of ancient armour, and several historical relics and trophies of Swiss valour, such as the yellow Austrian banner, and many pennons of knights and nobles, taken at the battle of Sempach; the coat of mail stripped from the body of Duke Leopold of Austria, who fell there: the iron cravat, lined with sharp spikes, destined for the neck of Gundoldingen, the Schultheiss and general of the men of Lucerne, who died in the hour of victory. Two Turkish flags were captured at the battle of Lepanto, and a long Moorish standard was brought from Tunis, 1640, by a knight of Malta, who was a native of Lucerne.

An excellent collection of Swiss birds and quadrupeds, extremely well mounted.

LAKE OF LUCERNE—RIGI—PILATUS, &c.



has been formed by a Mr. Stauffer, and is exhibited near to Thorwaldsen's Lion. It is probably, after that of Berne, the most complete collection of the kind to be seen in Switzerland: charge, 1 fr. each person.

General Pfylfer's model (in relief) of a part of Switzerland may interest those who desire to trace on it their past or future wanderings. It is placed in a well-lighted room near the *Englischer Hof*. 1 fr. admission.

The *Gothic Fountains*, which are to be observed in all parts of Switzerland, are here of singular beauty and originality.

The *English church service* is performed every Sunday in the English ch. near the *Schweitzer Hof*. The clergyman depends entirely on voluntary contributions of visitors, having no stipend.

Müller is a good chemist.

Physician, Dr. Stieger: speaks English, and is attentive to his patients.

At Eglin Brothers, in the Kapel Strasse, books, prints, panoramas, and maps relating to Switzerland may be had.

The most interesting of the *sights* of Lucerne is, without doubt, the **Monument to the memory of the Swiss Guards*, who fell while defending the Royal Family of France in one of the bloody massacres of the first French Revolution, August 10, 1792. It is situated in a garden, a little way beyond St. Leger's ch. on the Zürich road. The design is by Thorwaldsen, executed by Ahorn, a sculptor of Constance. It represents a lion of colossal size, wounded to death, with a spear sticking in his side, yet endeavouring in his last gasp to protect from injury a shield bearing the fleur-de-lis of the Bourbons, which he holds in his paws. The figure, hewn out of the living sandstone rock, is 28 ft. long and 18 high, and whether as a tribute to fallen valour, or as a work of art, of admirable design and no mean execution, it merits the highest praise. It is the most appropriate monument in Europe. Beneath it are carved the names of the officers who fell in defending the Tuileries,

Aug. 10 and Sept. 2 and 3, 1792. The loyalty and fidelity of this brave band, who, at the sacrifice of their own lives, protected Louis and his family when deserted by their natural defenders, almost make us forget that they were mercenaries. There is a quiet solitude and shade about the spot which is particularly pleasing and refreshing. The rocks around are mantled with fern and creepers, forming a natural framework to the monument; and a streamlet of clear water, trickling down from the top of the rock, is received into a basin-shaped hollow below it, forming a mirror in which the sculpture is reflected. One of the very few survivors of the Swiss Guard, dressed in its red uniform, acts as guardian of the monument, and cicerone to the stranger. The cloth for the altar of the little chapel adjoining was embroidered expressly for it by the late Duchess d'Angoulême.

There are many pretty *walks* and *points of view* near Lucerne; one of the most interesting is to the Lime-tree, under which is a dial pointing to the mountains on the horizon; another is the villa called *Allenwinden*, perched on the top of the hill outside the Weggis gate, from which it may be reached in a walk of 15 minutes, by a path winding up the hill outside the town walls. The *Gütchi*, close to the town, and Gibraltar, both on the S. side of the Reuss, are also points which command a fine prospect.

At *Krienz*, $\frac{3}{4}$ h. S.W. of Lucerne, are ironworks, and a silk manufacture. The castle of Schaunzee crowns a hill behind it.

Steamers several times a day to Fluelen and the other villages on the lake. From Fluelen diligences proceed over the St. Gotthard. Travellers book from Lucerne.

Railways to Basle, Berne, Zug, and Zürich.

Excursions.—The Rigi summit may be reached in $4\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. from Lucerne—by steamer to Weggis, $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. thence to the summit on foot or on horse.

No one should leave Lucerne without exploring the beauties of its *Lake*

(Rte. 18)—called in German Vierwaldstädter See—the grandest in Europe in point of scenery, particularly the farther end of it, called the bay of Uri; and much additional pleasure will be derived if the traveller who understands German will take Schiller's 'Wilhelm Tell' as a pocket companion, in which admirable poem so many of the scenes are localized. Short excursions may with advantage be made in a row-boat; but the E. end of the lake, and especially the bay of Uri, being exposed to sudden gusts of wind, may best be visited from Lucerne in the steamer.

Those who intend to traverse the lake, and visit the Rigi, and to return afterwards to Lucerne, should combine the two expeditions, which may be effected in two days, *thus*—go to Küssnacht or to Arth and ascend from Goldau, descending next day on the opposite side, and embarking on the lake, either at Weggis or Gersau, pass up the bay of Uri, and by Tell's chapel, returning by water to Lucerne the 2nd evening.

****Mount Pilate.** This most interesting and recompensing ascent can now be easily accomplished even by ladies. There are 2 good *Inns* near the top, one on each side of the highest ridge, but no mule-path connects them; the excellent paths that reach up to the ridge, from Hergiswyl on the N., Alpach on the S., are separated by 40 feet of ladder, which the jealousies of rival inns seem to maintain as a barrier. The views from *Pilatus'* summit are even finer than those from the Rigi, especially over the Alpine chain. It has altogether 7 summits, exceedingly rugged and precipitous; but pre-eminence is accorded to the Widderfeld. The new road to the Brunig passes by *Hergiswyl (Inn: *Rössli)*, which is reached by steamer (or row-boat in 2 hrs.). Here horses may be procured. A bridle-path, made at an expense of 1000*l.*, leads first through orchards and meadows, and then along the N. side of the mountain, in about 4 hrs. to the Joch or col, 6287 ft., connecting the Klimeshorn with the Oberhaupt. Here is built the

Hôtel of the Klimeshorn (2 houses belonging to the same landlord, with an attached chapel). Extensive view from the Klimeshorn, 10 min. walk from the inn. A well-made zigzag path leads onwards to the foot of the Oberhaupt (40 min. walk), where it stops, for the ridge itself cannot be climbed over. It is, however, bored through by a nearly vertical fissure about 40 ft. deep, called the *Krisiloch*, in which a commodious ladder, or rather rude staircase, is placed. On surmounting this the traveller emerges on one of the peaks, from which the whole range of the Bernese mountains suddenly burst upon him, having been previously concealed by the mountain. There are few more striking scenes in all Switzerland. A descent of 5 min. by an excellent path leads to the *Bellevue Hotel*, 6961 ft., very comfortable, a small library of books, built on the depression between the Oberhaupt and the Esel. The view from the Esel, 10 m. above the hotel, is the finest of those accessible by paths. A well-made mule-path leads from the Bellevue Hotel to Alpach. It has even been used as a char-road. An English lady and her daughter left Alpach in a char with 1 horse at 3½ P.M. (July 28, 1863), and reached the Bellevue Hotel at 8 P.M.

Unfortunately Pilatus is very subject to clouds, otherwise the mountain is far more interesting than the Rigi, and the view from it in some respects finer, though a less complete panorama, and the grandeur of its own serrated outline, which forms so important a feature of the Rigi view, is of course wanting. The peaks best seen are the Wetterhorn, Viescherhörner, Eiger, Mönch, and Jungfrau; the Lake of Lucerne lies open as far as Brunnen.

A traveller lost his way among the rocks above Hergiswyl and was killed in 1857.

According to a wild tradition of considerable antiquity, this mountain derives its name from Pilate, the wicked governor of Judæa, who, having been banished to Gaul by Tiberius, wandered about among the

mountains, stricken by conscience, until he ended his miserable existence by throwing himself into a lake on the top of the Pilatus. The mountain, in consequence, labours under a very bad reputation. From its position as an outlier, or advanced guard of the chain of the Alps, it collects the clouds which float over the plains from the W. and N.; and it is remarked that almost all the storms which burst upon the lake of Lucerne gather and brew on its summit. This almost perpetual assembling of clouds was long attributed by the superstitious to the unquiet spirit still hovering round the sunken body, which, when disturbed by any intruder, revenged itself by sending storms, and darkness, and hail on the surrounding district. So prevalent was the belief in this superstition, even down to times comparatively recent, that the government of Lucerne forbade the ascent of the mountain, and the naturalist Conrad Gessner, in 1555, was obliged to provide himself with a special order, removing the interdict in his case, to enable him to carry on his researches upon the mountain.

According to some, the name Pilatus is only a corruption of *Pileatus* (capped), arising from the cap of clouds which rarely quits its barren brow, and which are sometimes seen rising from it like steam from a caldron. The peasants profess to be able to foretell the weather from the appearance of the clouds on the top, and have a saying,—

"Wenn Pilatus trägt sein Hut
Dann wird das Wetter gut.
Trägt er aber einen Regen,
So giebt's wohl sicher Regen."

The mountain consists, from its base to its summit, of nummulite limestone and sandstone; the strata incline to the S., and abound in fossil remains, especially near the summit, around the Bründlis Alp and the Castelen Alp.

ROUTE 17.

LUCERNE TO SCHWYTZ—THE FALL OF THE ROSSBERG.

	Leagues.	Eng. m.
Lucerne.		
Küssnacht . . .	2½	= 7½
Arth . . .	1½	= 5½
Schwytz . . .	2½	= 8½
	7	21

(See Map, p. 51.)

A good *post*-road to Schwytz. Diligence starts from Küssnacht, passengers booked on board the steamers.

Schwytz may also be reached rather more quickly by steaming to Brunnen.

The road to Küssnacht runs nearly all the way in sight of the lake of Lucerne, and of the Alps of Engelberg and Berne beyond. On a headland at the angle of the green bay of Küssnacht, stands the ruined *castle* of New Habsburg, destroyed, 1352, by the Lucerners.

Küssnacht—*Inns*: H. du Lac; Hirsch; Rössli. The road from Küssnacht to Immensee lies through the celebrated *Hollow Way*, and on the rt. a ruined wall is pointed out which goes by the name of *Gessler's Castle*. The *Hollow Way* (Hohle Gasse) is a narrow green lane, overhung with trees growing from the high banks on each side. Here Tell, after escaping from Gessler's boat on the lake of Lucerne, lay in wait for his enemy, and shot him as he passed, from behind a tree, with his unerring arrow. It is somewhat remarkable that researches into the archives of Küssnacht have clearly

proved that the ruin called Gessler's Castle never belonged to him. The "Hollow Way" has been much filled up in making the new road.

On emerging from the Hollow Way *Tell's Chapel* is seen by the roadside. By a singular anomaly a place of worship, originally dedicated to "The Fourteen Helpers in Need" (Our Saviour, the Virgin, and Apostles), now commemorates a deed of blood, which tradition, and its supposed connection with the origin of Swiss liberty, appear to have sanctified in the eyes of the people, so that mass is periodically said in it, while it is kept in constant repair, and bears on its outer wall a fresco representing Gessler's death.

Immensee. Comfortable little Inn. The road now skirts the lake of Zug (Rte. 15), or the tourist may take the steamer to *Arth*; and 2 m. farther is *Goldau—Inn*; Rössli (Cheval Blanc); good, civil people.

FALL OF THE ROSSBERG.

"Mountains have fallen,
Leaving a gap in the clouds, and with the
shock

Rocking their Alpine brethren; filling up
The ripe green valleys with destruction's
splinters,

Damming the rivers with a sudden dash,
Which crushed the waters into mist, and made
Their fountains find another channel!—thus,
Thus, in its old age, did Mount Rosenberg."

Byron.

On approaching Goldau the traveller may perceive traces of the dreadful catastrophe which buried the original and much larger village of that name, and inundated the valley for a considerable distance with a deluge of stones and rubbish. The mountain which caused this calamity still remains scarred from top to bottom: and nothing grows upon its barren surface; but in the course of years the valley itself has in many places become green, and the fallen rocks bear trees, lichens, and vegetation, and the great similarity to mountain valleys in general shows how often in past ages such catastrophes must have happened, though no record of them has been preserved.

The Rossberg, or Rufiberg, is a mountain 4958 ft. high; the upper part of it consists of a conglomerate or pudding-stone, formed of rounded masses of other rocks cemented together, and called by the Germans *Nagelflue*, or Nail-rock, from the knobs and protuberances which its surface presents, resembling nail-heads. From the nature of the structure of this kind of rock, it is very liable to become cracked, and if rain-water or springs penetrate these fissures they will not fail to dissolve or moisten the unctuous beds of clay which separate the *nagelflue* from the strata below it, and cause large portions of it to detach themselves from the mass. The strata of the Rossberg are tilted up from the side of the lake of Zug, and slope down towards Goldau like the roof of a house. The slanting direction of the seams which part the strata is well seen on the road from Arth. If, therefore, the clay which fills these seams be washed out by rains, or reduced to the state of a viscous or slimy mud, it is evident that such portions of the rock as have been detached from the rest by the fissures above alluded to, must slip down, like the masses of snow which fall from the roof of a house as soon as the lower side is thawed, or as a vessel when launched slides down the inclined plane purposely greased to hasten its descent. Within the period of human records destructive landslips had repeatedly fallen from the Rossberg, and a great part of the piles of earth, rock, and stones, which deform the face of the valley, derive their origin from such catastrophes of ancient date; but the most destructive of all appears to have been the last. The vacant space along the top of the mountain caused by the descent of a portion of it, calculated to have been a league long, 1000 ft. broad, and 100 ft. thick, and a small fragment at its farther extremity, which remained when the rest broke off, are also very apparent, and assist in telling the story. The long and wide inclined plane forming the side of the mountain, now ploughed up

and scarified as it were, was previously covered with fields, woods, and houses. Some of the buildings are still standing within a few yards of the precipice which marks the line of the fracture.

The catastrophe is thus described in the narrative published at the time by Dr. Zay, of Arth, an eyewitness:—

“The summer of 1806 had been very rainy, and on the 1st and 2nd September it rained incessantly. New crevices were observed in the flank of the mountain, a sort of cracking noise was heard internally, stones started out of the ground, detached fragments of rocks rolled down the mountain; at two o'clock in the afternoon of the 2nd of September, a large rock became loose, and in falling raised a cloud of black dust. Toward the lower part of the mountain, the ground seemed pressed down from above; and when a stick or a spade was driven in, it moved of itself. A man, who had been digging in his garden, ran away from fright at these extraordinary appearances; soon a fissure, larger than all the others, was observed; insensibly it increased; springs of water ceased all at once to flow; the pine-trees of the forest absolutely reeled; birds flew away screaming. A few minutes before five o'clock the symptoms of some mighty catastrophe became still stronger; the whole surface of the mountain seemed to glide down, but so slowly as to afford time to the inhabitants to go away. An old man, who had often predicted some such disaster, was quietly smoking his pipe when told by a young man, running by, that the mountain was in the act of falling; he rose and looked out, but came into his house again, saying he had time to fill another pipe. The young man, continuing to fly, was thrown down several times, and escaped with difficulty; looking back, he saw the house carried off all at once.

“Another inhabitant, being alarmed, took two of his children and ran away with them, calling to his wife to fol-

low with the third; but she went in for another, who still remained (Marianne, aged five): just then, Francisca Ulrich, their servant, was crossing the room, with this Marianne, whom she held by the hand, and saw her mistress; at that instant, as Francisca afterwards said, ‘The house appeared to be torn from its foundation (it was of wood), and spun round and round like a tetotum; I was sometimes on my head, sometimes on my feet, in total darkness, and violently separated from the child.’ When the motion stopped, she found herself jammed in on all sides, with her head downwards, much bruised, and in extreme pain. She supposed she was buried alive at a great depth; with much difficulty she disengaged her right hand, and wiped the blood from her eyes. Presently she heard the faint moans of Marianne, and called to her by her name; the child answered that she was on her back among stones and bushes, which held her fast, but that her hands were free, and that she saw the light, and even something green. She asked whether people would not soon come to take them out. Francisca answered that it was the day of judgment, and that no one was left to help them; but that they would be released by death, and be happy in heaven. They prayed together. At last Francisca’s ear was struck by the sound of a bell, which she knew to be that of Steinenberg: then seven o’clock struck in another village, and she began to hope there were still living beings, and endeavoured to comfort the child. The poor little girl was at first clamorous for her supper, but her cries soon became fainter, and at last quite died away. Francisca, still with her head downwards, and surrounded with damp earth, experienced a sense of cold in her feet almost insupportable. After prodigious efforts she succeeded in disengaging her legs, and thinks this saved her life. Many hours had passed in this situation, when she again heard the voice of Marianne, who had been asleep, and now renewed her lamentations. In

the mean time the unfortunate father, who, with much difficulty, had saved himself and two children, wandered about till daylight, when he came among the ruins to look for the rest of his family. He soon discovered his wife, by a foot which appeared above ground: she was dead, with a child in her arms. His cries, and the noise he made in digging, were heard by Marianne, who called out. She was extricated with a broken thigh, and, saying that Francisca was not far off, a farther search led to her release also; but in such a state that her life was despaired of: she was blind for some days, and remained subject to convulsive fits of terror. It appeared that the house, or themselves at least, had been carried down about 1500 feet from where it stood before.

"In another place, a child two years old was found unhurt, lying on its straw mattress upon the mud, without any vestige of the house from which he had been separated. Such a mass of earth and stones rushed at once into the lake of Lowertz, although 5 m. distant, that one end of it was filled up, and a prodigious wave passing completely over the island of Schwanau, 70 feet above the usual level of the water, overwhelmed the opposite shore, and, as it returned, swept away into the lake many houses with their inhabitants. The village of Seewen, situated at the farther end, was inundated, and some houses washed away; and the flood carried live fish into the village of Steinen. The chapel of Olten, built of wood, was found half a league from the place it had previously occupied, and many large blocks of stone completely changed their position.

"The most considerable of the villages overwhelmed in the vale of Arth was Goldau, and its name is now affixed to the whole melancholy story and place. I shall relate only one more incident:—A party of eleven travellers from Berne, belonging to the most distinguished families there, arrived at Arth on the 2nd of September, and set off on foot for the Rigi a few minutes before the catastrophe. Seven of them had got about 200

yards a-head,—the other four saw them entering the village of Goldau; and one of the latter, Mr. R. Jenner, pointing out to the rest the summit of the Rossberg (full 4 m. off in a straight line), where some strange commotion seemed taking place, which they themselves (the four behind) were observing with a telescope, and had entered into conversation on the subject with some strangers just come up; when, all at once, a flight of stones, like cannon-balls, traversed the air above their heads; a cloud of dust obscured the valley; a frightful noise was heard. They fled! As soon as the obscurity was so far dissipated as to make objects discernible, they sought their friends; but the village of Goldau had disappeared under a heap of stones and rubbish 100 feet in height, and the whole valley presented nothing but a perfect chaos! Of the unfortunate survivors, one lost a wife to whom he was just married, one a son, a third the two pupils under his care: all researches to discover their remains were, and have ever since been fruitless. Nothing is left of Goldau but the bell which hung in its steeple, and which was found about a mile off. With the rocks torrents of mud came down, acting as rollers; but they took a different direction when in the valley, the mud following the slope of the ground towards the lake of Lowertz, while the rocks, preserving a straight course, glanced across the valley towards the Rigi. The rocks above, moving much faster than those near the ground, went farther, and ascended even a great way up the Rigi; its base is covered with large blocks carried to an incredible height, and by which trees were mowed down, as they might have been by cannon.

"A long track of ruins, like a scarf, hangs from the shoulder of the Rossberg, in hideous barrenness, over the rich dress of shaggy woods and green pastures, and grows wider and wider down to the lake of Lowertz and to the Rigi, a distance of 4 or 5 m. Its greatest breadth may be 3 m., and the triangular area of ruins is fully

equal to that of Paris, taken at the external boulevards, or about double the real extent of the inhabited city. I notice, however, that the portion of the strata at the top of the Rossberg, which slid down into the valley, is certainly less than the chaotic accumulation below; and I have no doubt that a considerable part of it comes from the soil of the valley itself, ploughed up and thrown into ridges like the waves of the sea, and hurled to prodigious distances by the impulse of the descending mass, plunging upon it with a force not very inferior to that of a cannon-ball."

The effects of this terrible convulsion were the entire destruction of the villages Goldau, Bussingen, and Rothern, and a part of Lowertz; the rich pasturages in the valley and on the slope of the mountain, entirely overwhelmed by it and ruined, were estimated to be worth 150,000*l.*; 111 houses, and more than 200 stables and chalets, were buried under the débris of rocks, which of themselves form hills several hundred feet high. More than 450 human beings perished by this catastrophe, and whole herds of cattle were swept away. Five minutes sufficed to complete the work of destruction. The inhabitants of the neighbouring towns and villages were first roused by loud and grating sounds like thunder: they looked towards the spot from which it came, and beheld the valley shrouded in a cloud of dust; when it had cleared away, they found the face of nature changed. The houses of Goldau were literally crushed beneath the weight of superincumbent masses. Lowertz was overwhelmed by a torrent of mud.

The danger of further calamity from the fall of other portions of the mountain is by no means past, even now. On July 3rd, 1823, a shepherd boy climbed up to the peak of the Rossberg, called Spitzbühl, to gather herbs. In crossing over towards Zug he came to a fissure, which he leaped across; but on his return he found it so much widened, that he could not venture to repeat his jump, and was obliged to make a circuit to reach

home. By the 6th of July the rent had increased to a width of 40 or 50 feet, and to the depth of nearly twice that number of feet. Great apprehensions were entertained lest the mass thus separated should in falling take the direction of the Inn and Church of Goldau: however, on the 11th, after the crack had widened to 150 ft., with a depth of 120, and a length of 200, down came the huge fragment; it was shattered to pieces in its fall, and threw up the waters of the lake of Lowertz 5 ft., but did no damage.

Those who desire a near view of the landslide should ascend the Gnypstock, whose summit may be reached in 3 hours from Arth.

The church and one of the inns at Goldau stand on the site of the village overwhelmed by the Rossberg; its inhabitants, thus destroyed in the midst of security, are said to have been remarkable for the purity of their manners and their personal beauty. The church contains two tablets of black marble inscribed with the names of some of the sufferers, and with particulars of the sad event. The high-road traverses the talus or débris, which extends from the top of the Rossberg far up the Rigi on the rt. It ascends vast hillocks of rubbish, calculated to be 30 feet deep hereabouts; but near the centre of the valley probably 200 feet, and winds among enormous blocks of stone already beginning to be moss-grown, and with herbage springing up between them. Among these mounds and masses of rock numerous pools are enclosed, arising from springs dammed up by the fallen earth.

Lowertz, or *Lauerz*, standing on the margin of the lake round which our road is carried on a terraced embankment, lost its church and several of its houses in the same catastrophe. The lake was diminished by one quarter in consequence of the avalanche of mud and rubbish which entered it, and its waters were thrown up in a wave 70 feet high to the opposite bank, so as to cover the picturesque island, and sweep away a small chapel which stood upon it. The ruined *Castle of*

Schwanau, still existing upon it, has an historical interest from having been destroyed at the first rising of the Swiss Confederates in 1308, to avenge an outrage committed by the Seigneur, in carrying off a damsel against her will, and detaining her in confinement. "There is a wild and sombre tradition attached to this island, that 'once a year cries are heard to come from it, and suddenly the ghost of the tyrant is seen to pass, chased by the vengeful spirit of a pale girl, bearing a torch, and shrieking wildly. At first he eludes her swiftness; but at length she gains upon him, and forces him into the lake, where he sinks with doleful struggles; and, as the waves close over the condemned, the shores ring with fearful and unearthly yellings.'"

[Near the village of Lowertz another footpath strikes up the Rigi, which is shorter than going round by Goldau for travellers approaching from Schwytz or Brunnen. About 3 m. above Lowertz it falls into the path from Goldau. (Rte. 15.) The Rigi Kulm may be reached by it in 3 hours.]

Seewen—(*Inn*: Zum Kreutz)—a village at the E. extremity of the lake, is resorted to on account of its chalybeate springs. Baths, &c., have been established here. A direct road to Brunnen here turns to the rt.; it is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. shorter than that by Schwytz, but is not good.

Schwytz—(*Inns*: Rössli, clean and reasonable;—H. Hettinger; Pension Yütz, 10 min. walk, comfortable, and prettily situated)—is a mere village, though the chief place in the canton—"the heart's core of Helvetia"—from which comes the name Switzerland, and contains 5748 Inhab. (nearly all Roman Catholics, including the adjoining scattered houses and villages, which all belong to one parish. It lies picturesquely, about 3 m. from Brunnen (Rte. 18), its port on the lake of Lucerne, at the foot of the very conspicuous double-peaked mountain, called Mythen (Mitres), the loftiest of whose horns is 5860 feet above the sea; and they flank the summit of the Hacken Pass.

Adjoining the *Parish Church*, a modern building, finished in 1774, is a small Gothic chapel, called *Kerker*, erected, according to tradition, at a time when admission to the church was denied the people by a ban of excommunication from the Pope. It was built in great haste, half of it within three days, and the mass was secretly administered within it.

In the *Cemetery* of the parish church is the grave of Aloys Reding, the patriotic leader (Landeshauptman) of the Swiss against the French Republicans, in 1798. "*Cujus nomen summa laus*," says his epitaph.

The *Rathhaus*, a building of no great antiquity nor beauty, in which the Council of the canton holds its sittings, is decorated with portraits of 43 Landammén, and a painting representing the events of the early Swiss history.

The *Arsenal* contains banners taken by the Schwytzers at Morgarten, and others borne by them in the battles of Laupen, Sempach, Kappel, Morat, &c.; also a consecrated standard presented by Pope Julius II. to the Schwytzers.

The *Archiv* (record-office) is a tower of rough masonry several stories high, and was probably once a castle: its walls are remarkably thick, and beneath it are dungeons.

Schwytz possesses a Capuchin convent, and a Dominican nunnery, founded in 1287. A Jesuit convent and Ch., built 1847, on the hill, has never been occupied.

Model of the valley of Muotta, illustrating the French and Russian campaign at M. Schindlem's.

Diligences to Lucerne, Zürich, Richterschwyl, Einsiedeln, St. Gall, and Glarus.

The Schwytzers first became known in Europe about the year 1200, in a dispute which the natives of this district had with the tenants of the monks of Einsiedeln. The holy Fathers, concealing from the Emperor the very existence of such a race as the men of Schwytz, had obtained from him a grant of their possessions, as waste and unoccupied lands. The Schwytzers, however, were able to

maintain their own property by their own swords, until at length the Emperor Frederick II. confirmed to them their rights.

The name Swiss (Schwytzer) was first given to the inhabitants of the three Forest cantons after the battle of Morgarten, their earliest victory, in which the men of Schwytz had taken the lead, and prominently distinguished themselves above the others.

At *Ibach*, a village on the Muotta (through which the road to Brunnen passes), may be seen the place of assemblage where the Cantons-Landes-Gemeinde—consisting of all the male citizens of the canton—formerly met in the open air to choose their magistrates, from the Landammans down to the lowest officer. Here they used to deliberate and vote on the affairs of the state, decide on peace or war, form alliances, or despatch embassies—a singular example of universal suffrage and the legislation of the masses. The business was opened by prayer, and by the whole assembly kneeling, and taking an oath faithfully to discharge their legislative duties. According to the Constitution of 1833, the General Assemblies of the canton are now held at Rothenthurn, on the road to Einsiedeln. At present the meeting of the Circle only is held here.

ROUTE 18.

THE LAKE OF LUCERNE. LUCERNE TO FLUELEN. (See Map, p. 51).

Steamers 5 times a day (1863) between Lucerne and Flüelen (26 Eng. m.) and back—to Weggis in $\frac{3}{4}$ hr.—Beckenried in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr.—Gersau in $1\frac{3}{4}$ hr.—Brunnen, $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.—Flüelen in 3 hrs. *Fare*—1st class, 4 fr. 60, to Flüelen. Return-tickets for 3 days 6 fr. Passengers for Schwyz and for the St. Gotthard line are booked on board.

The scale of charges for conveying carriages, including embarking, is fixed by tariff in the *Indicateur*.

Boats may be hired at all the ports on the lake, and are convenient when the steamer's time is not suitable. The charges are fixed by tariff, which may be seen at the inns, but the men expect a *bonnemain*.

Much has been said of the dangers of the lake of Lucerne, arising from storms: sudden and tempestuous winds no doubt do sometimes occur; but the boatmen can always foresee the approach of a storm, and are very careful not to subject themselves to any risk. The clumsy flat-bottomed boats are only fit for the dead calm which generally prevails, and would be useless if there was often bad weather; yet instances of accidents are hardly known—either the boatmen will not stir out, or put into shore, which is always near, on the slightest appearance of bad weather. Those who trust themselves on the lake in boats should implicitly follow the advice of the boatmen, and not urge them to venture when disinclined, neither they nor their boats being fit for bad weather.

The *winds* on the lake are singularly capricious and variable, blowing at the same time from opposite quarters of the compass in different parts of it, so that the boatmen say that there is a new wind behind every promontory. The most violent is the S. wind, or *Föhn*, which occasionally rushes so furiously down the bay of Uri as to prevent the progress of any row-boat, and renders

it difficult for even a steamer to make headway. During fine weather, in summer, the north wind blows along the bay of Uri from ten to three or four, after which it dies away, and is succeeded by the S. wind. The boatmen, in coming from Lucerne, endeavour to reach Flüelen before the wind turns.

The *Lake of Lucerne, or of the Four Forest Cantons* (Vier-Waldstädter-See), so called from the cantons of Uri, Unterwalden, Schwytz, and Lucerne, which exclusively form its shores, is distinguished above every lake in Switzerland, and perhaps in Europe, by the beauty and sublime grandeur of its scenery. It is hardly less interesting from the historical recollections connected with it. Its shores are a classic region—the sanctuary of liberty; on them took place those memorable events which gave freedom to Switzerland—here the first Confederacy was formed; and, above all, its borders were the scene of the heroic deeds and signal vengeance of WILLIAM TELL, on which account they are sometimes called Tell's Country.

The lake lies at a height of 1406 ft. above the sea-level: it is of very irregular shape, assuming, near its W. extremity, the form of a cross. Its various bays, branching in different directions, are navigated by separate lines of steamers, and are each named after the chief town or village situated on them: thus the W. branch is properly the lake of Lucerne; then come the bays of Alpnach on the S., Küsnacht on the N., Buochs, stretching E. and W.; and lastly, the bay of Uri, running N. and S., entirely enclosed within the mountains of that canton.

Quitting Lucerne, the steamboat soon arrives abreast of a promontory on the l., called Meggenhorn, close off which lies a small island, the only one in the lake. A Frenchman, the Abbé Reynal, took upon himself to raise upon it a monument to the founder of Swiss liberty; it consisted of a wooden obelisk, painted to look like granite, with Tell's apple and arrow on the top. This gingerbread

memorial of vanity and bad taste was luckily destroyed by lightning. Thus far the shores of the lake are undulating hills, clothed with verdure, and dotted with houses and villas—a smiling scene to which the dark ridge of Pilatus adds a solitary feature of grandeur. After doubling the cape of the Meggenhorn, the bay of Küsnacht opens out on the l., that of Alpnach on the rt., and the traveller finds himself in the centre of the cross or transept (so to call it) of the lake. From this point Mount Pilate is seen to great advantage—clouds and darkness almost invariably rest upon his head, and his serrated ridge and gloomy sides have a sullen air in the midst of the sunny and cheerful landscape around. The superstitions connected with this mountain are mentioned in Rte. 16.

Looking up the bay of Küsnacht the ruined castle of Neu Habsburg is seen on the l. perched on a cliff; and, at the further extremity of the village of Küsnacht, a fort belonging to the counts of that name. The colossal mass of the Rigi occupies the other side of the bay. Its sides are girt with forests, below which runs a fringe of fields and gardens, dotted with cottages; while, above, it is clothed to its very summit with verdant pastures, feeding a hundred flocks;—an agreeable contrast to his opposite neighbour Pilate.

After weathering the promontory of Tanzenburg, a spur or buttress descending from the Rigi, the village of Weggis appears in sight: it is the usual port of embarkation for travellers returning from the Rigi, and may be reached in about an hour from Lucerne. The high precipices opposite Weggis belong to canton Unterwalden, but the narrow ledge of meadow at their base is in canton Lucerne.

Two rocky headlands projecting from the Rigi on one side, and the Burgenburg on the other—significantly called the Noses (Nasen)—now appear to close up the lake; but as the boat advances, a narrow strait, not more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. wide, is disclosed between them. Once through these

narrows, and the noses seem to have overlapped each other, and the traveller enters, as it were, a new lake shut out by high mountains from that which he has traversed before. This oval basin is called the *Gulf of Buochs*, from the little village at the bottom of the bay on its S. shore, behind which rise two grand mountains, the Buochser and Stanzer-Horn.

Beckenried (*Inn*: Sonne; Mond; Krone; Adler), a very thriving place, many houses in construction, was once the place of assembly of the council of the 4 cantons. The steamers here land passengers bound for *Buochs* (3 m.) or *Stanz* (6 m.). Carriages may be hired here, and there is an omnibus daily for Lungern and the Brünig (Rte. 19).

There is a pleasant walk from Beckenried to Grütli, by a charming path, leading in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. by Emetten, the Seelis-see and the village of Seelisberg. A splendid view of the lake from the top of the ascent between Beckenried and Emetten.

On the opposite shore, at the foot of the Rigi, nestles the little village *Gersau* — (*Inn and Pension*: Sonne, small, but clean)—which, with the small strip of cultivated and meadow land behind it, formed, for four centuries, an independent state, undoubtedly the smallest in civilized Europe.

Its entire territory consisted of a slope leaning against the side of the mountain, produced probably by the earth and rubbish washed down from above, by two mountain-torrents breaking out of ravines behind it. The whole extent of land cannot measure more than 3 m. by 2, which would make a very small *parish* in England; scarcely an acre of it is level ground, but it is covered with orchards, and supports a population of 1348 souls, dwelling in 174 houses, 82 of which form the village.

It is recorded that the people of Gersau bought their freedom from a state of villenage in 1390, with a sum of 690 lbs. of pfennings, scraped together after 10 years of hard toil, to satisfy the Lords of Moos, citizens of Lucerne, whose serfs they had pre-

viously been. They maintained their independence apart from any other canton, and governed by a landamman and council, chosen from among themselves, until the French occupied Switzerland in 1798, since which they have been united with the canton Schwytz. Though Gersau possessed a criminal jurisdiction of its own, together with a gallows still left standing, no instance of a capital execution occurred during the whole of its existence as a separate state.

There is something very pleasing in the aspect of Gersau on the margin of its quiet cove, shrouded in orchards and shut out from the rest of the world by the precipices of the Rigi; for, although there is a path hence to Brunnen, and another to the top of the mountain, they are difficult and little used. Its picturesque, broad-brimmed cottages are scattered among the fields and chesnut woods nearly to the summit of the slopes; some perched on sloping lawns, so steep that they seem likely to slip into the lake. A road has been made from Gersau along the lake to Brunnen, and a path leads up the Rigi by the Rigi Scheideck Inn (Rte. 15).

The steamer calls off Gersau, which is reached in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. from Lucerne. As soon as it is left behind, the singular bare peaks of the Mythen (Mitres) start up into view,—at their foot the town of Schwytz is built, 3 m. inland, and in front of them stands the village of

Brunnen — (*Inns*: Golden Adler; Cheval Blanc; the Pension Auf der Mauer, at Gutsch, is well spoken of, as affording quiet, cottage accommodation, and good cooking)—the bustling port of the canton Schwytz, built at the mouth of the river Muotta. Its position in reference to the surrounding scenery is one of the most fortunate on the lake, commanding a view along two of its finest reaches. Mt. Pilatus is well seen from this. The warehouse, called *Sust*, bears on its outer walls a rude painting of the three Confederates, to commemorate the first alliance which was formed on this spot between the Forest Cantons in

1315, after the battle of Morgarten. Aloys Reding here raised the standard of revolt against the French in 1798.

[Those who intend to ascend the Rigi from this, usually take a char to Goldau (charge 9 frs.):—for pedestrians there is a shorter footpath from Lowertz (see Rte. 17). The Stoss, $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. to the S.E. of Brunnen, and especially the Frohnalp, $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. S. from the Stoss, command magnificent views. The Frohnalp *Pension* is nearly opposite Seelisberg; it is elevated and airy.]

Diligences for St. Gall, Einsiedeln, and Zug.

Opposite Brunnen, the lake of the Four Cantons changes at once its direction and its character. Along the bay of Uri, or of Flüelen as it is sometimes called, it stretches nearly N. and S. Its borders are perpendicular, and almost uninterrupted precipices; the basements and buttresses of colossal mountains, higher than any of those which overlook the other branches of the lake; and their snowy summits peer down from above the clouds, or through the gullies in their sides, upon the dark gulf below. At the point of the promontory, opposite Brunnen, stands a small inn, called *Treib*, with a little haven in front, in which boats often take shelter. The small village of *Seelisberg* stands on the slope of the mountain above Treib; just beyond which is the popular *Pension* (and *Curhaus*) of *Sonnenberg*, 1 hr. from Treib, $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from Beckenried, and by a steep climb of $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. from Grütli. It is about 1300 feet above the lake, and is filled to overflowing during the season. New milk every morning at 6. *Sonnenberg* is beautifully situated on the brow of a precipice, immediately under the Oberbauen or Seelisberger Kulm (3 hrs. ascent), and the Uri Rothstock, and looks directly down on the bright waters of the lake. It is surrounded by fragrant fir-woods, and many pretty walks lead from it. One may bathe in the lake of Seelisberg. Panorama from the Seelisberger Kulm, practicable for good lady walkers, is first class. There is a

footpath from Treib to Flüelen over the mountains by Seelisberg, Bauen, Isenthal, and Seedorf. There is a similar and equally difficult path from Schwytz to Morsebach, Sisikon (or Sissigen), Tellenrûth, to Altorf, which was nevertheless traversed by the French General Lecourbe, with his army, in pursuit of Suwarrow, in the night, by torchlight, in 1799. The want of boats to transport his forces across the lake compelled him to this daring exploit. On turning the corner of the promontory of Treib, a singular rock, called *Wytenstein*, rising like an obelisk out of the water, is passed, and the bay of Uri, in all its stupendous grandeur, bursts into view.

"It is upon this that the superiority of the lake of Lucerne to all other lakes, or, as far as I know, scenes upon earth, depends. The vast mountains rising on every side and closing at the end, with their rich clothing of wood, the sweet soft spots of verdant pasture scattered at their feet, and sometimes on their breast, and the expanse of water, unbroken by islands, and almost undisturbed by any signs of living men, make an impression which it would be foolish to attempt to convey by words."—*Sir James Mackintosh*.

After passing the Wytenstein about a mile, the precipices recede a little, leaving a small ledge, formed by earth fallen from above, and sloping down to the water's edge. A few walnut and chesnut trees have here taken root, and the small space of level ground is occupied by a meadow conspicuous among the surrounding woods from the brightness of its verdure. This is *Grütli* or *Rütli*, the spot pointed out by tradition as the rendezvous of the 3 founders of Swiss freedom, — Werner Stauffacher, of Steinen, in Schwytz; Erni (Arnold) an der Halden, of Melchthal, in Unterwalden; and Walter Fürst, of Attinghausen, in Uri. These "honest conspirators" met in secret in the dead of night, on this secluded spot, at the end of the year 1307, to form the plan for liberating their country from the oppression of their Austrian governors. They here "swore to be

faithful to each other, but to do no wrong to the Count of Habsburg, and not to maltreat his governors."

"These poor mountaineers, in the 14th cent., furnish, perhaps, the only example of insurgents who, at the moment of revolt, bind themselves as sacredly to be just and merciful to their oppressors as to be faithful to each other;" and, we may add, who carried out their intentions. The scheme thus concerted was carried into execution on the following new year's day; and such was the origin of the Swiss Confederation.

According to popular belief, which everywhere in Switzerland connects political events with notions of religion, the oath of the Grütli was followed by a miracle, and 3 springs gushed forth from the spot upon which the 3 confederates had stood. In token of this every stranger is conducted to a little hut built over the 3 sources of pure water, and is invited to drink out of them to the memory of the 3 founders of Swiss freedom. It is doubtful whether the 3 sources are not merely 1 split into 3; but few would search to detect "the pious fraud."

The view from Grütli is delightful. A small scar may be observed from hence on the face of the opposite precipice of the Frohnalpstock, formed by the fall of a piece of rock. The fragment which has left such a trifling blemish was about 1200 ft. wide; when it fell it raised such a wave on the lake as overwhelmed 5 houses of the village of Sissigen, distant 1 mile, and 11 of its inhabitants were drowned. The swell was felt at Lucerne, more than 20 miles off.

The immediate shores of the bay of Uri are utterly pathless, since, for the most part, its sides are precipices, descending vertically into the water, without an inch of foreground between. Here and there a small sloping ledge intervenes, as at Grütli, and on one or two other spots room has been found for a scanty group of houses, as at Sisikon, Bauen, Isleten, &c. The strata are singularly contorted in many places.

A little shelf, or platform, at the

foot of the Achsenburg, on the E. shore of the lake, called the *Tellen-Platte*, is occupied by TELL'S CHAPEL, and may be reached in $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. by boat from Grütli. Here, according to the tradition, Tell sprang on shore out of the boat in which Gessler was carrying him a prisoner to the dungeon of Küssnacht (Rte. 15), when the sudden storm on the lake compelled him to remove Tell's fetters, in order to avail himself of his skill as steersman: thus affording the captive an opportunity to escape. The chapel, an open arcade lined with rude and faded paintings, representing the events of the delivery of Switzerland, was erected by canton Uri in 1388, only 31 years after Tell's death, and in the presence of 114 persons who had known him personally—a strong testimony to prove that the events of his life are not a mere romance. Once a year, on the first Friday after the Ascension, mass is said and a sermon preached in the chapel, which is attended by the inhabitants on the shores of the lake, who repair hither in boats, forming an aquatic procession.

The murder of Gessler by Tell, notwithstanding the provocation, was a stain on the Swiss revolution, marked as it was equally by the just necessity which led to it and the wise moderation which followed it, in preventing the shedding of blood, so that even the tyrannical bailiffs of the Emperor were conducted unharmed beyond the limits of the Confederacy, and there set free: an act of forbearance the more surprising considering that many of the Swiss leaders were smarting under personal wrongs inflicted by these Bailiffs or Zwing-Herrn.

Tell, acting by the impulse of his individual wrongs, had well nigh marred the designs of the confederates by precipitating events before the plan was properly matured. Yet there is something so spirit-stirring in the history of "the mountain Brutus," that there is no doubt the mere narration of it contributed as much towards the success of the in-

surrection and the freedom of Switzerland, by rousing the minds of a whole people, as the deep and well-concerted scheme of the 3 conspirators of Grütli. It ought to be added that there have been fierce disputes as to the existence of Tell, and that a similar story is related as having occurred in Denmark to one Toko in the 10th cent.

The view from Tell's chapel is exceedingly fine. The following are the remarks of Sir James Mackintosh on this scene:—"The combination of what is grandest in nature, with whatever is pure and sublime in human conduct, affected me in this passage (along the lake) more powerfully than any scene which I had ever seen. Perhaps neither Greece nor Rome would have had such power over me. They are dead. The present inhabitants are a new race, who regard with little or no feeling the memorials of former ages. This is, perhaps, the only place in our globe where deeds of pure virtue, ancient enough to be venerable, are consecrated by the religion of the people, and continue to command interest and reverence. No local superstition so beautiful and so moral anywhere exists. The inhabitants of Thermopylæ or Marathon know no more of these famous spots than that they are so many square feet of earth. England is too extensive a country to make Runnymede an object of national affection. In countries of industry and wealth the stream of events sweeps away these old remembrances. The solitude of the Alps is a sanctuary destined for the monuments of ancient virtue; Grütli and Tell's chapel are as much revered by the Alpine peasants as Mecca by a devout Musselman; and the deputies of the 3 ancient cantons met, so late as the year 1715, to renew their allegiance and their oaths of eternal union."

The depth of the lake, opposite Tell's chapel, is 800 ft. After rounding the cape on which it stands, Flüelen appears in view. On the W. shore the valley of Isenthal opens out; terminated by the grand snowy peaks of the *Uri Rothstock* on one side,

while in the centre the vista is closed by the grand conical peak of the *Bristenstock*.

The *Uri Rothstock*, for its height, 10,376 ft., is one of the easiest mountains in Switzerland. Those who wish to ascend it may take a boat from Brunnen or Flüelen to Isleten, whence it is 5 m. to *Isenthal*, at which place there is tolerable accommodation for the night. Next morning start with one of the Imfangers as a guide (5 fr. for each person), and return at night.

Flüelen, the port of the canton Uri, may be reached by steam in 20 minutes from Tell's chapel. Here begins the carriage-road over the St. Gothard. (Rte. 34.)

Omnibus from Altorf to meet the steamer.

ROUTE 19.

THE PASS OF THE BRÜNIG.—LUCERNE TO MEYRINGEN OR BRIENZ.

		Eng. m.
Lucerne	{ Diligence or Steamer }	4½
Stanzstad		
Alpnach Gestad	{ Diligence or Steamer }	4
Sarnen (diligence)		
Lungern	"	10
Meyringen, or "	"	9
Brienz	"	10

A good carriage-road has been made across the Brünig: its beauties are fully equal to those of the former path. (See Map, p. 51.)

From Lucerne, steamer to Stanstad 35 min.; on to Alpnacht, 20 min., 55 min. in all; fare 2 fr. Diligence from Alpnacht over to Brünig, to Brienz, &c. Passengers booked on board the steamer, or at the post-office, Lucerne. Leaving Lucerne in the morning, Brienz is reached by the diligence in time for the steamers to Interlaken, and thence by the rly. on to Berne.

From Lucerne the traveller by water proceeds through a strait between the village of Stanzstad on the

1. and the spur of the Pilatus, called Lopper, on the rt., into that beautiful and retired gulf of the lake of the Four Cantons, called the Lake of Alpnach. The castle of Rotzberg, on its E. shore, is remarkable as the first stronghold of the Austrians of which the Swiss confederates gained possession on New-year's day, 1308. One of the party, the accepted lover of a damsel within the castle, being, according to the practice of Swiss lovers even at the present time, admitted by a ladder of ropes to a midnight interview with his mistress, a girl living within its walls, succeeded in introducing, in the same way, 20 of his companions, who found no difficulty in surprising and overpowering the garrison. The loves of Jägeli and Anneli have, from that day forth, been celebrated in Swiss song. A series of simultaneous risings in other parts of the Forest Cantons proved equally successful, and in 24 hours the country was freed from the Austrian rule.

Stanzstad (*Inns*: Zum Winkelried; Rössli) is a small village on the margin of the lake, immediately opposite Winkel, under the Rotzberg. It is distinguished by its tall watch-tower, 5 centuries old. In 1315, a little before the battle of Morgarten, a vessel laden with Austrian partisans was crushed and swamped by a millstone hurled from the top of this tower.

An embankment has been thrown over the narrow mouth of the Alpnach arm of the lake, with a bridge (Achenbrücke) in the centre, which can be raised to let the steamer pass, between Stanzstad and the Lopper. *Omnibus* daily, Stanzstad to Beckenried.

Gestad, or *Alpnach-am-Gestad*, at the S. end of the bay ($1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. from Winkel) (*Inn*: Cheval Blanc—not good), is the principal port for travellers going to or coming from the Brünig. A 1-horse char to Lungern costs 12 fr. and drink-money 1 fr.; a 2-horse carriage 20 fr. and 2 fr. drink-money.

The carriage-road from Lucerne to Alpnach-am-Gestad runs across the promontory to Winkel on the lake, thence skirting it to Hergiswyl (*Inn*,

Rössli), from which the bridle-path ascends the Pilatus to the *Klimsenhorn* hotel. It next coasts around the base of the Lopper, one of the butresses of Pilate, to the Achenbrücke, and continues by the shore of the Alpnach Lake to Gestad.

Alpnach (*Inns*: Hotel Pilate, well spoken of, horses for the ascent of Pilatus (to the *Bellevue* Hotel); Schlüssel). It is a scattered village of 1400 Inhab. at the foot of the Pilatus (Rte. 17), which extends $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the water-side. The extensive forests which clothe the sides of that mountain belong, for the most part, to Alpnach, and would be a source of wealth to its inhabitants if they could be got at more easily. It was with a view of turning to account the fine timber growing on spots barely accessible by ordinary means, owing to their height and the ruggedness of the ground, that the celebrated *Slide of Alpnach* was constructed. This was a trough of wood formed of nearly 30,000 trees, fastened together lengthwise, 5 or 6 feet wide at the top, and 3 or 4 feet deep, extending from a height of 2500 feet down to the water's edge. It was planned and executed by a skilful engineer from Württemberg, named Rupp. The course of this vast inclined plane was in some places circuitous; it was supported partly on uprights; and thus was carried over 3 deep ravines, and, in two instances, passed underground. Its average declivity did not exceed 1 foot in 17, yet this sufficed to discharge a tree 100 ft. long and 4 ft. in diameter, in the short space of 6 minutes, from the upper end of the trough, where it was launched, into the lake below, a distance exceeding 8 Eng. m. The trees were previously prepared by being stripped of their branches, barked, and rudely dressed with the axe. The bottom of the trough was kept constantly wet by allowing a rill of water to trickle down it, and thereby diminish the friction. Professor Playfair, who has written a most interesting account of the slide, says that the trees shot downwards

with a noise like the roar of thunder and the rapidity of lightning, seeming to shake the earth as they passed. Though the utmost care was taken to remove every obstacle, it sometimes happened that a tree stuck by the way, or, being arrested suddenly in its progress, leaped or bolted out of the trough with a force capable of cutting the trees growing at the side short off, and of dashing the log itself to atoms. To prevent such accidents, watchmen were stationed at regular distances along the sides during the operation of discharging the wood, and a line of signals, similar to those in use on modern railways, were established, showing, by a concerted signal, when anything went wrong. The timber, when discharged, was collected on the lake and floated down the Reuss into the Rhine, where it was formed into rafts, such as are commonly met with on that river, and sold in Holland for ship-building and other purposes. Napoleon had contracted for the greater part of the timber, to supply his dockyards; but the peace of 1815, by diminishing the demand, rendered the speculation unprofitable, and the slide, having been long abandoned, was taken down in 1819. Similar slides, nearly as long, are common throughout the great forests of the Tyrol and Styria. (See *Handbook for South Germany*.) In 1833 some French speculators constructed a cart-road up the Pilatus into the centre of its forests, and the timber squared or sawn into planks was brought down on the axle, drawn by 20 or 30 horses and oxen.

The *Ch. of Alpnach*, a handsome modern edifice, with a taper spire, was built with the timber brought down by the slide.

In the canton Unterwalden, which we are about to traverse, by an ancient law every inhabitant was bound to guide the stranger who questions him on his way, without fee or charge. The road ascends the valley along the left bank of the Aa, about 6 m. to *Sarnen*.

[*Beckenried to the Brünig*. Beckenried is a village of 1400 Inhab., beau-

tifully situated on the Lake of Lucerne. The *Soleil* is a good and clean *Inn*. It can furnish charrs or horses. The steamers from Flüelen land passengers at Beckenried and at Buochs.

The char or diligence road runs round the bay of *Buochs*, passing through the village of Buochs. (*Inns*: Kreutz; Krone) to

Stanz — *Inns*: Krone (Crown); Engel (Angel)—capital of the lower division (Nidwalden) of canton Unterwalden, contains 1870 Roman Catholic Inhab. It was in the *Rathhaus* of Stanz that the venerable Swiss worthy Nicolas Von der Flue appeased the burning dissensions of the confederates, in 1481, by his wise and soothing counsels. In the existing building there is a picture representing him taking leave of his family. In the market-place is a statue of Arnold of Winkelried, a native of Stanz, with the "sheaf of spears" in his arms. (See Rte. 4.) His house is also shown here, now occupied by a family named Kaiser, that of Winkelried being extinct. It is a large ancient farm-house, of which one portion, including a low archway with groined entrance and dwarf pillars, may be as old as the time of Winkelried. The field on which it stands is called in old records "the meadow of Winkelried's children." On the outer walls of the bone-house, attached to the handsome *Parish Church*, is a tablet to the memory of the unfortunate people of Nidwalden (386 in number, including 102 women and 25 children) who were massacred, in defending their homes, by the French in September, 1798. In that year this division of the canton was the only part of Switzerland which refused the new constitution tyrannically imposed on it by the French republic. The ancient spirit of Swiss independence, fanned and excited by the exhortations of the priests (which in this instance must be termed fanatic, as all resistance was hopeless and useless), stirred up this ill-fated community to engage an army ten times greater than any force they could

oppose to it, and consisting of veteran troops. At a time when the larger and more powerful cantons had yielded, almost without a struggle, the brave but misguided men of Unterwalden and Schwytz afforded the solitary proof that Swiss bravery and love of freedom were not extinct in the land of Tell. Their desperate resistance, however, served only to inflame the fury of their foes. After a vain attempt made by the French to starve the Unterwaldeners into submission, "on the 3rd of September, 1798, General Schauenburg, the French commander, directed a general attack to be made, by means of boats from Lucerne, as well as by the Oberland. Repulsed with great spirit by the inhabitants, only 2000 strong, the attack was renewed every day from the 3rd to the 9th of September. On this last day, towards two in the afternoon, new reinforcements having penetrated by the land side, with field-pieces, the invaders forced their way into the very heart of the country. In their despair the people rushed on them with very inferior arms. Whole families perished together; no quarter was given on either side. 18 young women were found among the dead, side by side with their fathers and brothers, near the chapel of Winkelried. 63 persons who had taken shelter in the church of Stanz were slaughtered there, with the priest at the altar. Every house in the open country, in all 600, was burnt down; Stanz itself excepted, which was saved by the humanity of a *chef de brigade*. The inhabitants who survived this day, wandering in the mountains without the means of subsistence, would have died during the ensuing winter if they had not received timely assistance from the other cantons, from Germany and England, and from the French army itself, after its first fury was abated."—*Simond*.

The attack upon Stanzstad was conducted by General Foy, afterwards so prominent a leader of the liberal party in France. That unfortunate village was totally consumed.

Kerns, a small village 7 m. beyond

Stanz, with a tolerable Inn. The pedestrian may either make a short cut to Sachseln avoiding Sarnen, or may take a boat at Sarnen to the upper end of the lake of Sarnen. A mile and a half beyond Kerns the road from Beckenried meets the road from Lucerne at]

Sarnen.—(*Inns*: Sarnen Hof; Aigle d'Or, fair.) This village, of 3000 Inhab., is the capital of the division of the canton called Obwalden, and the seat of the Government. It is pleasingly situated at the extremity of the lake of Sarnen, at the foot of an eminence called *Landenberg*, a spot memorable in Swiss history as the residence of the cruel Austrian bailiff of that name who put out the eyes of the aged Henry an der Halden, father of one of the heroes of Grütli. This act of atrocity made a deep impression on the popular mind, contributing, with other events, to the outbreak of the Swiss insurrection. On New-year's morning, 1308, 20 peasants of Obwalden repaired to the castle with the customary presents of game, poultry, &c., for the seigneur, who had gone at that hour to mass. Admitted within the walls, they fixed to their staves the pike-heads which they had concealed beneath their dress, blew a blast as a signal to 30 confederates who lay in ambush, under the alders, outside of the gate, and, in conjunction, captured the stronghold almost without resistance. No vestige of the castle now remains: the terrace which occupies its site, and commands a most beautiful view, has since 1646 served for the annual convocations of the citizens of the canton, who meet there to exercise the privilege of electing their magistrates. Adjoining it is the public shooting-house, for the practice of rifle shooting. The upper half of the village was burnt some years ago. The lower half is very old; and there is a bridge across the river nearly 300 years old, constructed, like many of the Swiss bridges, on the modern principle of having the arch above the roadway.

The *Rathhaus*, a plain edifice, not

unlike the court-house of an English county town, contains, in its "business-like council chambers," portraits of the landammén from 1381 to 1824. "The artists have been particularly successful in delineating the beards." There is one picture, however, better than the rest, of Nicholas von der Flüe, one of the worthies of Switzerland, more particularly respected in this canton, where effigies of him abound. He enjoys the rare reputation of a patriot, and at the same time a peace-maker, having spent his life in allaying the bitterness and dissensions between his countrymen, which, at one time, threatened the destruction of the Helvetian Republic. After an active life, in which he acquired a good reputation as a soldier in the field, and an adviser in council, at 50 years of age, he retired from the world into the remote valley of Melchthal, where he passed his time as a hermit in a humble cell, in exercises of piety. His reputation, however, for wisdom as well as virtue, was so high that the counsellors of the confederacy flocked to him in his solitude to seek advice, and his sudden appearance before the Diet at Stanz and his conciliating counsels prevented the dissolution of the confederacy. After enjoying the respect of men during his lifetime, he was honoured after his death (1487) as a saint.

The valley of Sarnen, bounded by gently sloping hills, has nothing Alpine in its scenery; its character is quiet, and pastoral, and pleasing. The successful experiment of letting off the waters of the lake of Lungern has led to a similar project of reducing that of Sarnen, which will probably be carried into effect sooner or later.

[The Storegg and Jauchli passes from Sarnen to Engelberg are described in Rte. 31.]

The road skirting the E. shore of the lake traverses the pretty village of *Sachselen* (Inns: Kreutz, good; Engel, comfortable.) Within the *Parish Church*, Nicholas von der Flüe, the hermit and saint, is interred. His bones lie, but do not repose, in a glass case above the high altar, the

shutters of which are opened for travellers, and are also withdrawn at stated seasons in order to be exhibited to the crowds of pilgrims who repair hither to pay their vows to the saint. Within the ribs, where the heart was, there is now a jewelled cross, and from the breast hang several military orders gained by natives of Unterwalden in military service, but offered up to the use of the dead saint, who is known to the peasants by the name of Bruder Klaus. There is a wooden figure in the transept, clothed with the saint's veritable robes. The walls are lined, by devotees, with votive tablets offered to the shrine of St. Nicholas, recording miracles supposed to have been performed by him.

The village *Gyswyl* was half swept away in 1629 by an inundation of the torrent *Laubach*, which brought so much rubbish into the valley as to dam up the waters of the *Aa*. A lake, thus created, lasted for 130 years, when it was finally let off by an artificial canal into the lake of Sarnen.

[The summit of the *Rothhorn*, celebrated for its view, may be reached in 6 hours from Gyswyl; the path, at least for the first 3 hours, is good; the descent into the valley above Sörenberg is not so good. (See Rte. 25 E.)]

The steep ascent of the *Kaiserstuhl* requires to be surmounted before the road reaches a higher platform in the valley occupied by the *Lake of Lungern*.

This lake was formerly a beautiful sheet of water, embowered in woods sweeping down to its margin, and partly enclosed by steep banks. The dwellers on its shores, less influenced by admiration of its picturesqueness than by the prospect of enriching themselves in the acquisition of 500 acres of good land, previously buried under water, tapped it a few years ago, lowering its surface by about 120 feet, and reducing its dimensions—and thereby its beauty—by nearly one half.

The cost of this enterprise was 51,826 f. (5000*l.*) and 19,000 days' labour performed by the peasants.

Lungern (*Inns*: Löwe, good; Hotel Brünig, Post), about 10 m. from Sarnen, the last village in the valley, situated at the foot of the Brünig, and at the S. end of the lake, now removed by the drainage some distance from it.

The carriage-road over the Brünig, leaving the old mule-path l., ascends in well-constructed zigzag sweeps through the forest until it reaches the summit.

[There is a short cut for pedestrians to Brienz.] From this the ascent of the *Wylerhorn* (5895 ft.) may be made.

The culminating point of the pass of the Brünig is 3294 ft. above the sea-level. From the summit, near the frontier of canton Berne, a charming and first-rate view is obtained along the entire valley of Nidwalden, backed by the Pilatus, with the Lungern See for a foreground, forming altogether one of the most delicious scenes in Switzerland. From the brow, the valley of Hasli, with the Aar winding through the midst, opens out to the view of the traveller, backed by the gigantic and snow-white crests of the Wetterhorn, Eiger, and others of the Bernese Alps, and in front of them the Faulhorn.

Close to a small tavern, formerly a toll-house, from which there is a fine view, the road divides: the carriage-road on the rt. leads to the lake of Brienz; the bridle-path l. to Meyringen, seated in the midst of the rich flat which forms the bottom of the valley. From the opposite precipices two or three streaks of white may be discerned: these are the Falls of the Reichenbach, the Oltschibach, and others.

1½ hr. will take the traveller down to *Meyringen* (Rte. 25D) (5½ m.); 1 hr. will take him down the steep descent, by the new road, to Brienzwyler bridge on the road from Brienz to Meyringen, whence it is about 3 m. over a dull flat road to

Brienz. (Rte. 25E.)

ROUTE 20.

SARNEN TO ENGELBERG OR MEYRINGEN,
BY THE MELCHTHAL.

Pedestrian travellers, bound from Lucerne to Meyringen or Engelberg, may vary their route in an agreeable way by passing through the Melchthal, which opens out to the E. of Sarnen (Rte. 19). At its mouth, close to the chapel of *St. Niklausen*, stands an isolated tower, one of the most ancient buildings in the canton, dating from the earliest Christian times, when it was erected probably as a belfry. Melchthal was the native place of Arnold an der Halden, one of the conspirators of Grütli. (Rte. 18.) While ploughing his field near Schild, he was interrupted by a messenger sent from the bailiff Landenberg to seize his yoke of oxen. Enraged by the insolence of the servant, and the injustice of the demand, Arnold beat the man so as to break his finger; and fearing the tyrant's vengeance fled over the mountains into Uri, little anticipating that his rash act would be visited by the tyrant upon his father, by depriving him of sight. Nearly opposite to St. Niklausen is the *Ranft*, the site of the hermitage of the venerable Nicolas von der Flüe (see Rte. 19). The scenery of the valley which lies between the range of the Hochstollen (highest point 8157 ft.) and the Lauberstock (8395 ft.) is very agreeable. Countless chalets and hay-sheds cover the slopes on either side.

Three ways lead from the Melchthal to Engleberg.

(a) *Storegg Pass* (6709 ft.) turns off l. just beyond the bridge 1 m. from Ranft and 4 m. from Kerns or Sarnen. It is frequented, but difficult to follow; a guide should be applied for at the curé's of Melchthal, 1 m. farther up the valley. A steep ascent of 2 hrs.

leads to the Col, where frequently snow lies in patches. Then a descent of $\frac{1}{2}$ h. to the Luternsee, a small lake which is left on the l.; then a descent of 1 hr. to junction of Jauchli road (see below), and $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. on to Engelberg.

(b) *Jauchli Pass* (7136 ft.): the turn is from the end of the char-road, 1 m. beyond Melchthal. Steep zigzags lead up grassy slopes in 2 hrs. to the Col, where there is usually snow. The path passes through a narrow gap, where there is deep moss and many flowers. Then a descent of $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr. to junction of Storegg route, and $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. on to Engelberg.

(c) Following the Melchthal, the Melchsee (6432 ft.) near a group of chalets of the same name is reached. The stream that runs from it is lost in the ground and reappears after an interval. A mountain-path leads from it into the Gentelthal about 1 hr. below Engstlen.

ROUTE 22.

LUCERNE TO BERNE [OR THUN], BY THE ENTLEBUCH AND THE EMMENTHAL, AND LANGNAU (RAIL).

Post road. 6 $\frac{3}{8}$ posts = 57 Eng. m.

Railway, Langnau to Berne.

Diligence, Lucerne to Langnau, in 7 hrs.

	Posts.	Eng. m.
Schachen . . .	$1\frac{1}{2}$	= 10
Escholzmatz . .	2	= 18
Langnau Stat.	10
Berne	$1\frac{1}{2}$	= 11

This is the best and shortest of the two carriage-roads to Berne, and may still be adopted by pedestrians, or by those who wish to see two of the finest pastoral valleys in Switzerland. A rly. is begun. After a short détour the road enters a narrow valley, and follows the course of the stream

past Krienzen, where there are some iron-works, and then falls into the valley of the *Kleine Emme*, which it follows.

Schachen, a little beyond which the Free Corps were defeated in 1845 by the men of Lucerne.

From Schachen there is a road over the *Bramegg* pass, commanding a fine view, and falling into the main road at Entlebuch, but by the main road it takes about 4 hours from Lucerne to reach the village of

Entlebuch, at the W. foot of the *Bramegg* (*Inns*: H. du Port, Drei Könige), prettily situated on a slope, with the torrents Entle and Emme roaring beneath it.

From Entlebuch is a road formerly a char-road, not marked in the maps, to Alpnach (Rte. 19), by the side of the Schlierenberg.

The vale of Entlebuch is about 30 m. long, and is flanked by mountains covered with woods and pastures. The men of the valley are celebrated as the best wrestlers in Switzerland. They hold 4 or 5 great wrestling-matches, called *Schwing Feste*, between the months of June and Oct.; the chief on the first Sunday in Sept., when they try their skill against the athletes of the neighbouring valleys. The Bernese highlanders are formidable rivals. The Entlebuchers have been long renowned for their courage and independence. In 1405 Lucerne bought this valley from Austria, and bought up the feudal rights of the nobles over it, substituting a Lucerne bailli.

Escholzmatz (*Inns*: Löwe, good; Krone) is a scattered village, in a very high situation. A little way beyond it the road quits the Entlebuch, and descends, by the side of the Ilfis torrent, into the canton of Berne.

Near Trübschachen is a handsome hospital of wood for 100 orphans and 300 paupers.

Langnau (*Inns*: Cerf, quiet and good; H. zum Emmenthal, clean) is the principal place in the *Emmenthal*, Pop. 6000. An extensive, fertile, and industrious valley, famed for its cheeses (made on the high pastures near the tops of the

hills, and exported all over Germany), and for its manufactures of linen. Its meadows are of the brightest verdure; the cottages neat and substantial, with pretty gardens before them. The Emme, which traverses it, and its tributaries, at times commit serious devastations, by inundating their banks and overspreading them with gravel and débris. Such an occurrence in August, 1837, occasioned by a thunderstorm, created serious injury, destroying many houses and almost all the bridges: several lives were lost.

Railway from Langnau to Berne, 3 trains daily in 1 hr. The Ilfis is crossed, and afterwards the Emme, before reaching *Signau Stat.*—(*Inn*: Ours, tolerable)—a pretty village, with a ruined castle above it.

Next follows Zäziwyl, Konolfingen, Tägertsche Stats., and *Worb Stat.*, an industrious village, with a Gothic castle above it.

Gümling Junct. Stat. is on the rly. from Berne to Thun (Rte. 25A).

BERNE *Terminus* (in Rte. 24).

ROUTE 24.

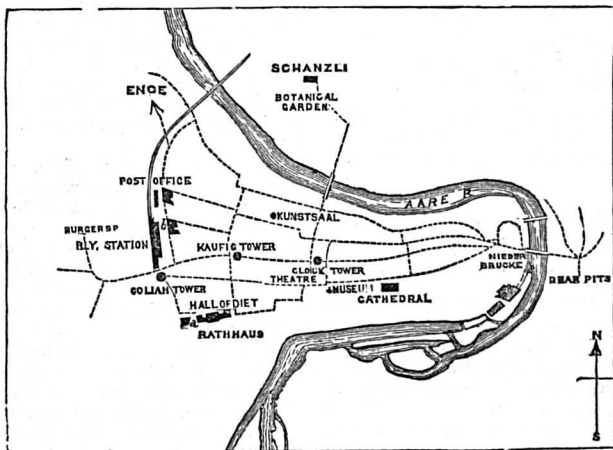
LUCERNE TO BERNE, BY RAILWAY.

This, although involving a long détour, is still the quickest mode of reaching Berne from Lucerne, and takes about 5 hrs.

Lucerne to Olten. (See Rte. 4.)

Olten to Berne. (See Rte. 5.)

BERNE.—*Inns*: three large houses near the rly. and close to the Federal Hall: Zähringerhof and Schweizerhof, clean, good, and moderate; Bernerhof, a very handsome hotel; H. de l'Europe, good. In the centre of the town are the Falke (Faucon), obliging landlord (charges—Br., 1½ fr.; tea, do.; B., 2½ fr.; table-d'hôte at 1, 3 fr.; at 5, 4 fr.);—H. du Maure (Zum Mohren), clean, good, and moderate; H. des Boulangers (Pfistern). The *Abbeyes*, or houses of the guilds, such



as the Distelzwang,* or Abbaye aux Gentilshommes, and the Abbaye du Singe, afford comfortable, quiet, and moderate accommodation to travellers. There are several *Pensions*, of which the Pension Jaggi at la Villette is well recommended.

The *sights of Berne* may be taken in a walk through the town in the following order:—Starting from the rly. stat., walk E., and straight down the principal street, called in consecutive portions of its length (Spitalgasse, Markt-gasse, Klamgasse, and Gericht-igkeitsgasse), along its arcades and under its clock towers, to the Nydeck Bridge, and over it to the Bears ($1\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the rly. stat.). In returning he must diverge 200 yards to the l., to see the Münster platz (Minster and view), and again to the Bundes Rathhaus (Federal Assembly). The Münster is halfway between the rly. stat., the Bears, and the Bundes Rathhaus close by it. Finally, crossing the Aar, ascend to the *Schänzli*, the best point of view near Berne, and return by the new Botanic Garden and rly. bridge to the station.

Berne, capital of the largest of the Swiss cantons (Pop. 467,141; all but 58,319 are Protestants), and, since 1849, permanent seat of the Swiss Government and Diet, and residence of most of the foreign ministers, contains 29,016 Inhab.

Berne is built on a lofty sandstone promontory, formed by the winding course of the Aar, which nearly surrounds it, flowing at the bottom of a deep gully, with steep and in places precipitous sides (stalden). The inconvenient ascent and descent by which the town could alone be reached from the E. formerly, has been remedied by a lofty *Bridge* (Pont de Nydeck), partly of granite, derived from erratic blocks lying on the Kirchet hill, thrown over this gully. It is 900 ft. long, and the central arch over the Aar 150 ft. wide and 93 ft. high (a small toll is paid). The distant aspect of the town, planted on this elevated

platform, 1700 ft. above the sea, is imposing; and there is something striking in its interior, from the houses all being built of massive stone. It has this peculiarity, that almost all the houses rest upon arcades (Lauben), which furnish covered walks on each side of the streets, and are lined with shops and stalls, like "the Rows" in the city of Chester. The lowness of the arches, however, and the solidity of the buttresses supporting them, render these colonnades gloomy and close. The chief street of shops and business runs through the town, along the top of the ridge. Overhanging the Aar, and removed from the main streets, are the more aristocratic residences of the exclusive patricians, and look really like "gentlemen's houses"—a rare thing in a continental town.

Rills of water are carried through the streets to purify them, and they are abundantly furnished with *Fountains*, each surmounted by some quaint effigy. One of these, the *Kinderfresser-Brunnen* (Ogre's-fountain), on the Corn-house-square, receives its name from a figure (probably Saturn) devouring a child, with others stuck in his girdles and pockets ready for consumption. Some bear the figures of armed warriors, such as David: another is surmounted by a female figure; but the favourite device is the *Bear*. Thus, the upper fountain in the principal street is surmounted by a bear in armour, with breast-plate, thigh-pieces, and helmet, a sword at his side, and a banner in his paw. The *Schützen Brunnen* is the figure of a Swiss cross-bowman of former days, attended by a young bear as squire; and two stone bears, larger than life, stand as sentinels on either side of the Morat gate.

Along the line of the principal street, which extends from the Rly. Stat. to the Nydeck Bridge over the Aar, are three antique watch-towers. The *Clock-tower* (Zeitglochenturm) stands nearly in the centre of the town, though, when originally built, in 1191, by Berchtold V., of Zähringen, it guarded the outer wall. Its

* *Zwang*, a local word for guild: Distel, thistle, the emblem of the gentlemen who held their meetings or club under this sign.

droll clockwork puppets are objects of wonder to an admiring crowd of gaping idlers. A minute before the hour strikes, first a wooden cock appears, crows twice, and flaps his wings; and while a puppet strikes the hour on a bell, a procession of bears issues out, and passes in front of a figure on a throne, who marks the hour by gaping and by lowering his sceptre. Further on in the street stands the *Käfigturm* (cage tower), now used as a prison; and beyond it *Christopher's tower*, also called Goliath's, from the figure of a giant upon it. Projects are entertained of pulling down these curious towers, in order to widen the street.

The great charm of Berne is the view of the Bernese Alps, which the town and every eminence in its neighbourhood command in clear weather. From the **Münsterplatz*, a lofty terrace, planted with shady rows of trees, overlooking the Aar, behind the Minster, six snowy peaks of the great chain are visible, and from the Enghe terrace, outside of the town, at least a dozen rise into view; they appear in the following order, beginning from the E.:—1. Wetterhorn; 2. Schreckhorn; 3. Finster-Aarhorn; 4. Eigher; 5. Mönch; 6. Jungfrau; 8. Gletscherhorn; 9. Mittaghorn; 10. Blumlis Alp; 11. In the middle distance, Niessen; 12. Stockhorn. (See Woodcut.)

There cannot be a more sublime sight than this view at sunset; especially at times when, from a peculiar state of the atmosphere, the slanting rays are reflected from the Alpine snows in hues of glowing pink. It is hardly possible to gaze on these Alps and glaciers without desiring to explore their recesses, which enclose some of the most magnificent scenery in Switzerland. The *Platform* itself, supported by a massive wall of masonry, rises 108 ft. above the Aar; yet an inscription on the parapet records that a young student, mounted on a spirited horse, which had been frightened by some children, leaped the precipice, and reached the bottom with no other hurt than a few broken ribs. The horse was killed on the spot. The

rider became minister of Kerzerz, and lived to a good old age!

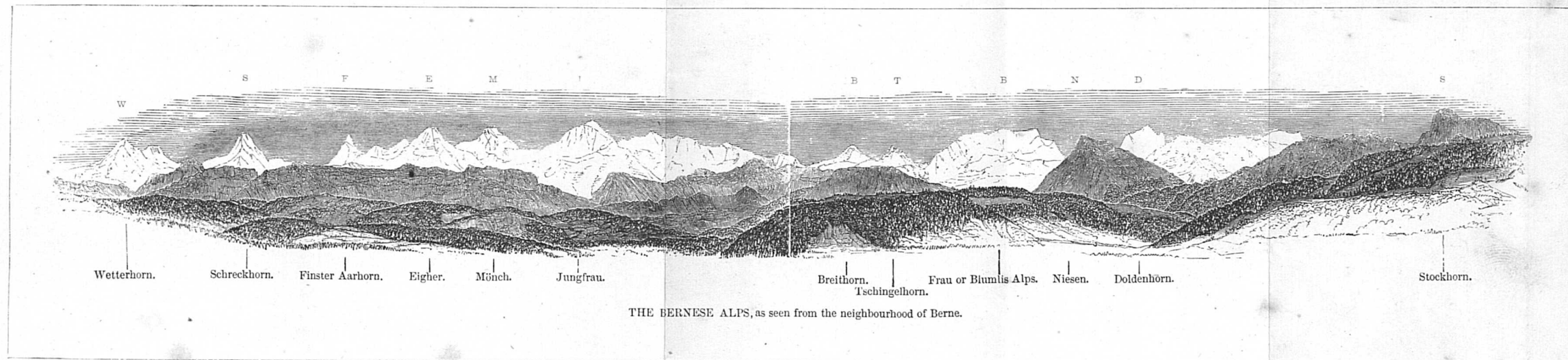
[Here is placed a bronze *Statue* of *Berchtold V., of Zähringen*, founder of Berne, 1847.

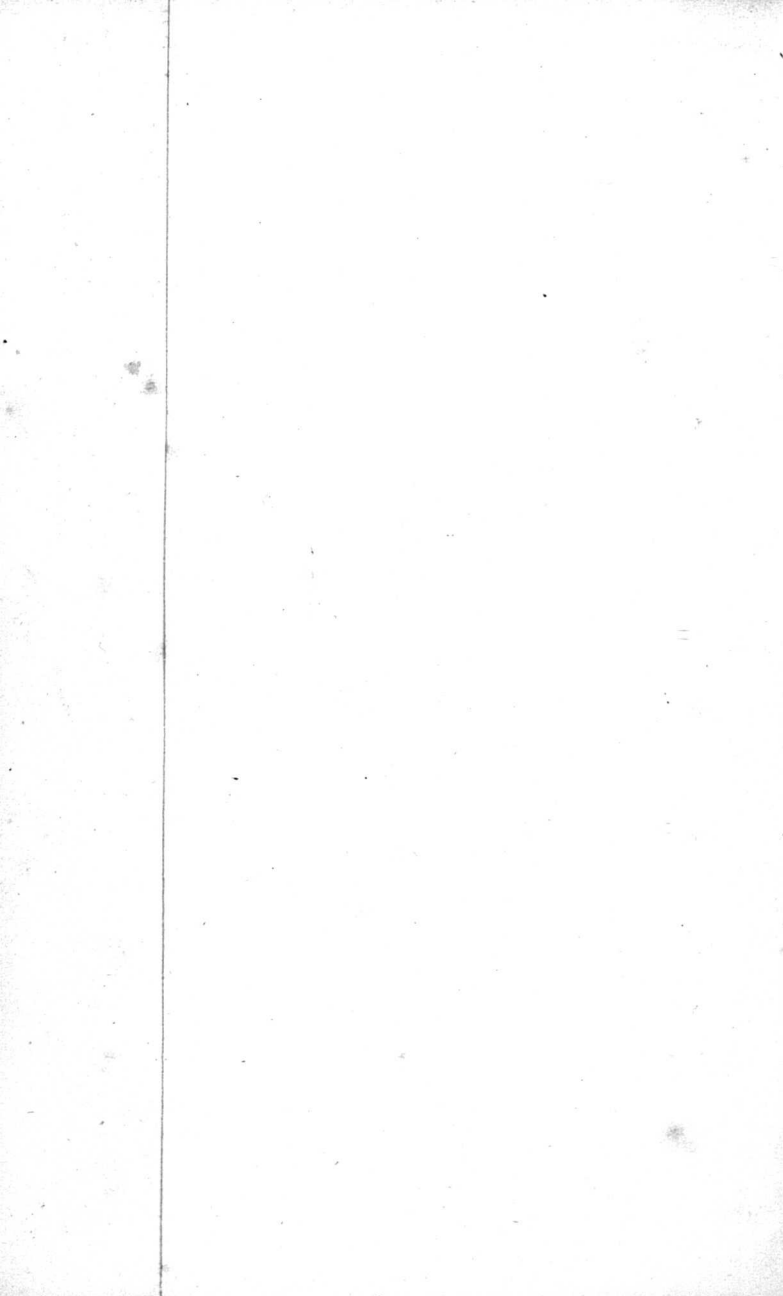
The **Minster*, a fine Gothic building in the Flamboyant style, was begun in 1421, and finished 1457, possibly from the designs of Erwin of Steinbach, who built Strasburg Minster, or one of his family; and many of the ornaments, such as the open parapet running round the roof, and varying in pattern between each buttress, are not inferior in design or execution to those of Strasburg. The chief ornament is the great *W. portal*, bearing sculptured reliefs of the Last Judgment, flanked by figures of the wise and foolish Virgins, &c. (date, 1475-85). The interior is not remarkable; but the *Organ* is fine, and is played on daily. In the windows, and on the roof, are the coats of arms of the aristocratic burghers of Berne. 4 tall windows of very fine painted glass in the choir deserve notice; (date, end of 15th cnty.), e.g. the so-called "wafers-window," with a symbolical representation of the Eucharist. The stalls in the choir (1512) are well carved with figures of the Apostles on one side, and prophets on the other. Along the walls are tablets, bearing the names of 18 officers and 683 soldiers, citizens of Berne, who fell fighting against the French, at Grauholz, near Zollikofen, 1798. There is also a monument erected by the town, in 1600, to Berchtold of Zähringen, founder of Berne.

On the *Münsterplatz*, opposite the *W. door* of the cathedral, has been erected a *bronze Monumental Statue* of Rudolph v. Erlach, the conqueror at Laupen, with 4 bears at the corners.

The *Museum* contains one of the best collections of the natural productions of Switzerland to be found in the country. It is open to the public 3 times a week: strangers may obtain admittance at all times by paying 1 fr. for 1 to 3 persons.

In the zoological department there





are stuffed specimens of the bear at all ages. Two young cubs, about the size of kittens, respectively 8 and 21 days old—hideous and uncouth monsters—enable one easily to discover the origin of the vulgar error that the bear was licked into shape by its mother. The lynx of the Alps, and the steinbock, both from the Bernese chain, are interesting from their rarity; these animals have nearly disappeared from Europe. Here is deservedly preserved the skin of *Barry*, one of the dogs of St. Bernard, who is recorded to have saved the lives of 15 human beings by his sagacity. A chamois with three horns, one growing out of the nose; a specimen of a cross breed between the steinbock and domestic goat, which lived 7 years; a wild boar, of gigantic size and bristling mien, are also worth notice.

In the *Ornithological* department are the lümmergeyer (vulture of lambs), the feathered monarch of the Alps, and inferior in size to the condor alone among birds. It breeds only on the highest mountains.

In addition to the native birds of Switzerland, there are specimens of several foreign and tropical birds which have found their way into Switzerland by accident; viz., a flamingo, killed near the lake of Morat, and a pelican from Constance.

The geology of Switzerland may be well studied in the very complete series of fossils collected by *M. Studer* and others. There are a number of beautiful specimens of all the rarest and finest minerals from St. Gothard. The illustration of Swiss *Botany* is equally complete.

Several plans in relief of various parts of Switzerland will prove equally instructive to the student of geography and geology.

Antiquities.—Obs. some Roman antiquities dug up in Switzerland; the Prie Dieu of Charles the Bold, and part of his tent hangings, captured by the Bernese at Grandson; the pointed shoes worn by the Bernese nobles in the 16th century; some dresses, &c. from the South Sea Islands, brought

over by Weber, the artist, who accompanied the expedition, who was of Swiss origin.

The *Town Library* is a good collection of 40,000 volumes, and is well stored with Swiss history. Haller, who was born at Berne, was librarian. The butter-market is held beneath this building.

On the N. side of the town is the *Roman Catholic Church*, by the architects Deperthes of Rheims and Müller of Freiburg, of rich Gothic; lined inside with marbles.

Behind the Corn-haus is the *Picture Gallery*, in an old desecrated ch. It contains some good modern paintings by Swiss and French artists, Robert, Calame, Diday, Girardet, &c.

The *Bundes-Rathhaus* or *Federal Council Hall*, built 1857, near the Museum and Casino Terrace, by far the largest and handsomest building in the town (Studer, architect), includes all the departments of the Swiss Legislature, the Diet, and the various Public Offices. The Diet (*Bundesversammlung*) consists of 2 bodies, the *Stände-rath* (44 Deputies of the Cantons) and National-rath, who meet generally in July, in 2 separate halls. The debates are open to the public. At other times the building is shown by the doorkeeper. In front is a marble fountain, with statues in bronze of the Four Seasons, and 4 swans.

Berne is celebrated for the number and excellence of its Charitable Institutions: they are, perhaps, more carefully attended to than any in Europe. There is a public granary in case of scarcity, two orphan-houses, an Infirmary, and an extensive *Hospital*, bearing the inscription "Christo in pauperibus." The new Prison and Penitentiary is an enormous building and said to be well conducted.

English Church service is performed twice on Sunday, at 11 and 3½ o'clock, in the chapel of the Burger Spital.

Since 1834 a *University* or high school has been established at Berne.

The bear forms the armorial badge of the town, the word "bern" signifying "bear" in old German, and he is as

great a favourite here as in the house of Bradwardine. Not only is his effigy on sign-posts, fountains, and buildings, but for several hundred years living specimens of the favourite were maintained by the town, until the French revolutionary army took possession of Berne, 1798, and the bears were led away captives, and deposited in the Jardin des Plantes, where one of them, the celebrated Martin, soon became the favourite of the French metropolis. But when the ancient order of things was restored at Berne, one of the first cares of the citizens was to replace and provide for their ancient pensioners. There is a foundation for the support of the bears, who, after having been reduced to one miserable animal, have been renovated, and have been removed from the Aarberg Gate to a commodious den near the Nydeck bridge. No traveller will quit Berne without paying them a visit, unless he wishes to have the omission of so important a sight thrown in his teeth whenever Berne is mentioned.

The fortifications of the town, no longer of use as defences, are converted into *Promenades*, and make very agreeable walks. The banks of the Aar, seen from them, especially from the *Grosse Schanze*, are most picturesque; and the Alps, when visible, form a background of the utmost sublimity.

They, however, as well as the city of Berne itself, are better seen from a terrace walk called the *Enghe*, about 20 min. walk to the N. from the Rly. Stat., outside the town gate, but not crossing the river, the favourite resort of the citizens. N.B. Good coffee and *krimpel kuchen*. On the way to it, beyond the gate, is the *Shooting-house*, where rifle matches take place.

There is a pleasant walk by a footpath through the Enghe-wald to Reichenbach (Rte. 5), once the residence of Rudolph von Erlach.

Two other more distant and elevated points, most advantageous for commanding the panorama of the Alps, are the hill of *Altenberg*, $\frac{1}{2}$ hr.'s walk on the N. of the town, reached

by a footbridge across the Aar, or more easily by the railway-bridge, or better than all the *Schänzli*, a promenade with a large café, commanding a very fine view, at the end of the hill nearest the railway-bridge. More distant from Berne is the Gurten, a hill about 4 m. S. of the town, with a still more extensive view.

At *Tiefenau* $\frac{3}{4}$ h. N. of Berne, is an ancient Gallic battlefield, whence hundreds of swords, rings, spearheads, &c., have been collected.

The *Casino*, a handsome building in the Ober-Graben, contains a reading-room, supplied with newspapers, a ball-room, &c. There is also a *Theatre* in the town.

Dalp & Co. are the principal booksellers, and keep a good supply of maps, views, and costumes, &c., of Switzerland. J. R. Dill, artist, has published elaborate *Panoramic Views* from the *Äggischhorn*, *Sidelhorn*, *Görner Grat*, *Niesen*, and *Grimsel*. Travellers about to ascend these mountains, will do well to obtain these excellent clue-views at Berne.

Jacob König, near the Clock-tower, is an excellent watchmaker.

Passports.—The Foreign ministers to the Swiss Confederation reside at Berne, English and Austrian ministers sign passports only early in the morning, from 10 to 11 or 12.

History of Berne.—It was founded in 1191 by Duke Berchthold V. of Zähringen, and was so called by him because he had killed a bear on the spot, and both he and the bear are still held in great respect. It joined the Swiss confederation in 1353, having been for many years an ally. Until 1798 it held Argau, Vaud, and other districts, as tributaries, and is reported to have governed them tyrannically. The government latterly fell into the hands of a small number of aristocratic families, who lost their power in 1798, partly recovered it in 1814, and lost it again in 1831. The history of Berne, which is very curious, is well related in the Hist. of Sw. published by the U. K. S. It may be mentioned that a Von Erlach led the Swiss to the battle of Laupen in 1339,

and a Von Erlach led them against the French in 1798. Until 1848 the Swiss government was carried on by Berne, Zürich, and Lucerne alternately, the governing canton for the year being called the Vorort.

ROUTE 25.

THE BERNESE OBERLAND.

- A. BERNE TO THUN AND INTERLAKEN.
- B. INTERLAKEN TO LAUTERBRUNNEN.
- C. LAUTERBRUNNEN TO GRINDELWALD
—WENGERN ALP.
- D. GRINDELWALD TO MEYRINGEN —
GREAT SCHEIDECK—FAULHORN.
- E. MEYRINGEN TO BRIENZ AND THUN—
GIESBACH.

It was in this magnificent highland district that Byron "repeopled his mind from nature," and gathered many of the ideas and images which he has so exquisitely interwoven in his tragedy of Manfred, the scene of which lies among the Bernese Alps.

A traveller in the Oberland should be supplied with plenty of patience and small change. Nowhere are the arts of mendicancy better understood, or more generally practised. Numerous gates intercept the frequented foot-paths, and at the approach of a stranger children run out to open it stretching forth their hands for alms. At one shed a live chamois, at the next a marmot is exhibited; every echo is turned to profit by old men with horns, or young men with pistols; troops of girls produce questionable noises which they call Alpine music. Each traveller must choose for himself whether to resist and fret at the annoyance, or to purchase peace at a small outlay of sous.

A. Berne to Thun.—Rail.

One hour by rly., four trains a day.

In fine weather the snowy Alps are in sight nearly the whole way. The scenery of the valley of the Aar is very pleasing; laid out in pasture-lands, with abundance of villages, and substantial farm-houses, with broad roofs, surrounded by neat gardens. The river itself runs at some distance on the rt., and is rarely visible. The principal village passed on the way is *Münsingen Stat.*, memorable in recent Swiss annals as the spot where the great public meetings of the men of the canton were held in 1831 and in 1849, which adopted new constitutions, and overthrew the rule of the oligarchy.

The *Stockhorn*, with its conical peak, and the *Niesen*, two limestone mountains, forming, as it were, the advanced guard of the high Alps, posted on the opposite side of the lake, become conspicuous objects. The river Aar is crossed.

Thun Stat., on l. bank of Aar. Passengers bound for Interlaken, and not wishing to stop at Thun, proceed 1 m. further (5 min.) to

Scherzlingen. Terminus on the shore of the lake, where travellers step on board the steamer to Neuhaus.

Thun, Fr. Thoue — *Inns*: H. de Bellevue, outside the town—well situated in a garden commanding a view of the Aar—belongs to MM. Knechtenhofer, who are also proprietors of the steamboat, rather dear;—Hôtel and Pension Baumgarten; clean and pleasant, in a nice garden;—Freyenhof, within the town, very good, frequented by Swiss officers, but no food is served from the kitchen before the hour of the table-d'hôte;—Faucon;—Kreuz;—Couronne.

There is not a more picturesque town in Switzerland than Thun, 3800 Inhab.; situated about a mile from the lake, upon the river Aar, which here rushes out of it as clear as crystal. Pre-eminent above the other buildings rise a venerable church, reached by a staircase from the Bridge

up the hill-sides, and a picturesque feudal *castle* of the Counts of Kyburg (1429). The town seems to have been of great importance formerly, and in the 14th centy. reckoned 70 noble families within its walls. It is a very curious old town, but contains no particular object especially worthy of notice. It is from its position and its beautiful environs, one of the most agreeable places of residence in Switzerland, and, being a starting-place for those who visit the Bernese highlands, it is thronged with a constant succession of travellers through the whole summer.

Here is the *Military College* of the Swiss Confederation, for educating officers, and the principal artillery and cavalry barracks of the country. Reviews take place every summer in the vicinity.

The *Castle of Schadau* is a large and singular Gothic castle, built (1850) by M. Rougemont, of Paris, between the Aar and the lake.

The view from the *Churchyard terrace* "along the lake, with its girdle of Alps (the Blumlis Alp being the most conspicuous), fine glaciers, and rocks wooded to the top," is mentioned by Byron. A more extensive prospect is gained from the grounds of a pretty country house, called the *Jacobshübel*, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile above the Hôtel Bellevue. The Jungfrau, Mönch, and Eiger are visible from hence. The *Churchyard of Äschi*, about 3 hrs. drive from Thun, on the S. side of the lake, is a charming excursion, easily made and without fatigue (see Rte. 37).

M. Knechtenhofer has built a *chapel* for the *English service* in the grounds of his hotel.

The charges for vehicles and saddle-horses throughout the Bernese Oberland have been fixed by a tariff which is hung up in the principal inns and in the lake steamers. The *voituriers* are also bound to produce the tariff when called upon to do so. The general rate is 10 frs. a day for each horse, but this rate is increased or diminished when the excursion is considered to be more or less than an ordinary day's journey.

Lake of Thun—Thun to Interlaken.—Steamboats ply between Thun (Scherzigen) and Neuhaus twice a day to and fro. The voyage takes up $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr. Fare 2 fr.

The steamer does not take carriages; but a good carriage-road runs to Interlaken (2 posts), along the S. shore of the lake. The distance, about 15 Eng. m.

It is a pleasant walk along the N. side of the lake. After Merlingen, the path rises high; it is easy to miss it in the woods.

The lake is about 10 m. long.; 1775 ft. above the level of the sea.

The banks of the lake near Thun are occupied with neat villas and cheerful gardens; farther on, its N. shore is precipitous. Among its scanty villages and hamlets, the most important is Oberhofen, distinguished by the square tower of its *castle*. It was the property of the late Count Pourtales, Prussian ambassador to Paris.

The S. shore is more striking. Here the two remarkable mountains, the *Stockhorn*, with a sharp peak projecting like a horn, or thorn, and the pyramidal mass of the *Niesen*, with its conical top and white Inn, stand sentinels at the entrance of the Kander and Simmenthal. The river Kander, conducted into the lake by an artificial channel formed for it in 1714, has deposited around its mouth, within less than a century and a half, a delta or sand-bank of several hundred acres. The progress and extent of this recent formation, so interesting to geologists, have been ably investigated by Sir C. Lyell.

[*Ascent of the Niesen.* An interesting excursion may be made from Thun to the summit of the Niesen, which, from its position, commands one of the finest panoramic views of the Bernese Alps. A carriage-road of 7 m. conducts from Thun across the entrance of the Simmenthal to Wimmis, at the foot of the mountain. The ascent from Wimmis to the summit will take about $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.; the descent 3 hrs. The charge for a horse from Wimmis to the summit and down again on the same day is

15 fr. At 5 min. walk from the summit is a wooden hotel, making up 24 beds. It may be recommended for its cleanliness, though not for its cookery.

The *near* view from the summit (7763 Eng. ft.) embraces the snowy mountains of the Oberland from the Altels and Rinderhorn on the W. to the Wetterhorn on the E.—the finest object being the Blümlis Alp, and the range extending from thence to the Jungfrau. The *more distant* view comprises the summit of Mont Blanc and the Dent du Midi; Monte Rosa and the Matterhorn are either partially or totally hidden behind the peaks of the Oberland. Directly downwards the eye rests on the two lakes of Thun and Brienz, on the town of Thun, and the villages of Brienz and Interlaken. A panoramic view has been published by Dill, and is hung up in the inn.]

Spiez. S. At the foot of the Niesen, on a projecting tongue of land, stands the picturesque castle, founded, according to tradition, by Attila (?), and belonging to the family of Erlach. At Spiezwyler there is a neat *Inn*.

N. When about two-thirds over the lake, a projecting promontory of precipitous rock, called the *Nase*, is passed, and a fine view is obtained of the Eigher and Mönch, which fill up the extremity of the lake with the white mass of their snow. To the rt. of them appears the Jungfrau.

In front of the *Nase* the lake is 720 ft. deep. N. Behind the village Merligen runs the *Justis Thal*: at a distance of between 2 and 2½ h. walk up it, in the cliffs forming its W. boundary, is a cave called *Schafloch*, which in the height of summer always contains *ice*. Such ice wells are not uncommon in the Jura, and in other parts of the world. For as air when it is cold is denser than when it is warm, all depths that do not admit of ventilation become receptacles of the coldest air. It subsides into them, and, once there, cannot be displaced. This cave has 2 branches; that in which the ice occurs runs straight from the entrance for about 60 ft., when it suddenly

narrows, and dips down 12 or 15 ft.; near the extremity is a gulf filled with water. Lights must be taken.

N. Farther on, in the face of the mountain overhanging the lake, is the *Cave of St. Beatus*, above a small cascade, which may be seen leaping into the lake. St. Beatus, according to tradition a native of Britain, converted the inhabitants of this part of Helvetia to Christianity. Being minded to take up his residence on the shores of the lake, he fixed his eyes upon a grot well suited to a hermit's abode, which happened at the time to be occupied by a dragon. The monster, however, was easily ejected without force, and simply by hearing a notice to quit addressed to him by St. Beatus. Among the miracles performed by the anchorite, in addition to the above, must be mentioned that of his crossing the lake on his cloak, which, when spread out on the water, served him instead of a boat. A rivulet issues out of the cave, and is subject to sudden rises, which fill the cavern to the roof, and are accompanied by a loud report, like that of a cannon. It may be reached in a quarter of an hour from the shore.

At *Neuhaus* a group of houses and cabarets at the end of the lake, about 10 m. from Thun, and about 2½ m. from Interlaken, the passengers are landed. There is a booking-office here for taking through tickets in all directions. A long array of carriages, porters, guides, and horses, will be found awaiting their disembarkation: also a diligence which runs to Interlaken; fare 1 fr. One-horse char, 2 frs.; two-horse, 3 frs. Those bound to Grindelwald by the carriage-road, would take their char or carriage from here.

Unterseen, a village of 1000 Inhab., composed (except the *Castle* on the market-place, and *Rathhaus*) of wooden houses, many of them brown from age, being two centuries old. It suffered from an inundation Aug. 1851, which swept away its bridge and some of its houses, and the landlord of H. des Alpes was drowned at the same time.

It is situated about half way between the lakes of Thun and Brienz, whence its name, and that of its immediate neighbour, Interlaken, both signifying "between the lakes." Interlaken has of late become so completely a fashionable watering-place, that those who wish for quiet and economy resort to the pensions here, of which there are several. The *Hotel and Pension Beausite* (4 fr. 25 c. a-day) is very well spoken of.

The manufactory of *Parquet floorings* of MM. Seiler is worth a visit.

*** Travellers having made up their minds at which house they will put up, in Interlaken, should insist on being driven to it, and not be deterred by being told that "it is full"—a common trick with persons interested in other houses.

Interlaken. Inns: H. and pension, Jungfrau-Blick, new, 1865, and very good, stands on a commanding eminence a little way out of the town; far the largest and best situated. It is raised above the damp air of the plain, and commands views of both lakes. H. Belvedere, good; Schweizer Hof; Hotel d'Interlaken; H. and pension des Alpes (H. du Lac, on the Lake of Brienz; H. Beau Site; H. Ritschard, large, good, chiefly German. There are at least a dozen pensions or boarding-houses here, where travellers are received for one day, paying as at an hotel, or for a stay of 5 or even 3 days en pension, at lower charges, varying between 5 and 6 fr. a-day, exclusive of wine, for boarding and lodging. The principal pensions are Strübe's;—the Casino affords as good accommodation as any in the place;—Campagne Fesenegg, near the Brienz road. At most of these houses there is a daily table-d'hôte, and during the season balls are now and then given at one or other. Pension Ober, very comfortable.

In 1859 a Kursaal, designed after the fashion of those at the German Baths, with restaurant, reading-rooms, a ball and concert room, play-tables,

&c., was opened for the general benefit of the visitors; entrance 1 fr. Fortunately the Bernese government has interdicted the hazard-tables, which the managers desired to introduce.

Interlaken has few sights or lions for the tourist or passing traveller, who need not stop here, unless he require to rest himself. Its beautiful position, however, on a little plain between the lakes, in full view of the Jungfrau, whose snowy summit is seen through a gap in the minor chain of Alps, its vicinity to numerous interesting sites, and some of the most pleasing excursions in Switzerland, together with its cheapness as a place of residence, have spread its reputation through Europe, and have converted it into a sort of watering-place, thronged with English, German, American, and other foreign visitors. The village itself, a collection of white-washed lodging-houses, with trim green blinds, has nothing Swiss in its character. Still, however, though no longer a place of retirement, Interlaken must not be disparaged; its almost endless walks and rides, its boating parties on the two lakes, its picnics and balls, would, in the society of friends, afford amusement for a season. In front of the lodging-houses runs a magnificent *Avenue of huge Walnut-trees*, most inviting from its cool shade.

Excursions. (a) The wooded slopes of the Harder, a hill on the opposite bank of the Aar, are rendered accessible by easy paths, commanding a delightful view. Keep to the paths, and beware of the slippery and really dangerous grass along the ridge: an English lady perished here in 1850. (b) The *Rugen*, distance about 2 m., commands a very beautiful view. Walks and drives have been cut through the adjoining woods. (c) The old *Castle of Unspunnen* is within an easy walk even for ladies; while (d) the Giesbach falls, (e) Lauterbrunnen, with the Staubbach, and (f) Grindelwald with its glaciers, are within a short morning's row or ride. (g) The top of the Wengern Alp may be reached from this in 5 hrs., and (h) the Faulhorn in 6 hrs. (i) The

Morgenberg, sometimes called Gumi-horn (7400 ft.), is easy of ascent, and commands a remarkably fine view. It is the extremity of the range which walls in the lake of Brienz on the S. (j) The "Schynige Platte," which crown the l. portal of the Lauterbrunnen valley. The view from it is one of the finest that can be obtained of the Oberland range, and for ladies it is the easiest of access. A carriage takes $\frac{1}{2}$ h. to Gsteig. The same horses are used for the ascent, which leaves the Lauterbrunnen road immediately behind the ch. of Gsteig, and reaches the Schynige Platte in 3 hrs. (*Inn*, small, good). The view comprises the whole range of the Oberland Mts., from the Wellhorn to the Blumlis Alp. The mule-path up to the Inn is good, thence a rough path, not fit for mules, leads in $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. to the Taubenhorn, whence the view is panoramic. A footpath, which is to be improved into a mule-path, leads from the Sch. Platte in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. to the Faulhorn. (k) Another interesting excursion is that of the Suleck, whose summit may be reached in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. by Isenfluh. Many others of the surrounding mountains will repay an ascent. The streams usually originate in small glaciers, not seen from the valley. They are described in the following tour of the Oberland. The view from the churchyard of *Aeschi*, on the S. shore of the lake of Thun, forms a deserving object of a day's excursion. You leave the carriage-road to Thun at Leisigen, and take a footpath on the l. along a lane for 5 m. The carriage may wait at Spiez. (See Rte. 37.)

At *Urfer's* Subscription Reading-room and Library 'The Times,' 'Galignani,' 'Débats,' &c., are taken in.

The *English Church Service* is performed every Sunday twice in the Old church by an English clergyman, for whom a small stipend is formed by voluntary contributions among his countrymen.

Dr. Mani, physician, speaks English, and keeps an *English dispensary*. His *goat's whey* establishment is much resorted to by invalids.

Mountain-ponies may be hired at Interlaken at 11 fr. a-day, bonnemain included, for one pony, or 10 fr. each when several are taken. *The Guides* abound, and are paid by tariff, at the rate of 6 frs. per diem, but expect 1 fr. bonnemain. Instances of gross misconduct are very rare; but there is no remedy except an appeal to a magistrate, who usually seems to consider the tourist fair game.

B. Interlaken to Lauterbrunnen,

About 2 hours' walk—a drive of $1\frac{1}{4}$ h. Carriage there and back, with a halt of 2 hrs., one horse, 8 fr.; two horses, 15 fr. After passing a tract of verdant meadow-land, on which great wrestling-matches (one of which has been described by Madame de Staël) are periodically held, the road passes on the rt. the *Castle of Unspunnen*: it is in a very dilapidated state, but a square tower, with a flanking round turret, rise picturesquely above the brushwood surrounding them. It is the reputed residence of Manfred, and its position in front of the high Alps renders it not unlikely that Byron may have had it in his eye. The real owners of the castle were the barons of Unspunnen, a noble and ancient race, who were lords of the whole Oberland, from the Grimsel to the Gemmi. Burkard, the last male descendant of this family, had a beautiful and only daughter, Ida, who was beloved by a young knight attached to the Court of Berchtold of Zähringen, between whom and Burkard a deadly feud had long subsisted. Under such circumstances the youthful Rudolph of Wadenswyl, despairing of obtaining the father's consent to their union, scaled the castle-walls by night, carried Ida off, and made her his bride. Many years of bloody strife between the two parties followed this event. At length Rudolph, taking his infant son by Ida along with him, presented himself, unarmed and without attendants, to Burkard, in the midst of his stronghold. Such an appeal to the old man's affections and generosity was irresistible; he melted

into tears, forgot his wrongs, and, receiving his children into his bosom, made Rudolph's son the heir of his vast possessions. At the time of the reconciliation, the old baron had said, "Let this day be for ever celebrated among us;" and rural games were in consequence, for many years, held on the spot. These were revived in 1805 and 1808, and consisted of gymnastic exercises, wrestling, pitching the stone, &c., in which the natives of the different cantons contended with one another, while spectators from far and near collected on a natural amphitheatre. A huge fragment of rock, weighing 184 lbs., which was hurled 10 ft. by an athlete from Appenzell, may still be seen half buried in the ground.

Leaving behind the villages of Wylderswyl and Mühlinen, whose inhabitants are sadly afflicted with goitre (§ 18), the road plunges into the narrow and savage gorge of the torrent *Lütschine*. Not far up, the road passes a spot of evil repute as the scene of a fratricide—"just the place for such a deed." It was marked by an inscription in the face of a projecting rock, called, from the murder, the Evil Stone (*Böse Stein*), or Brother's Stone. The encroachments of the river upon the road rendered it necessary to blast a portion of the rock in order to widen the carriageway, in doing which the inscription has been displaced. The murderer of his brother, according to the story, was lord of the Castle of Rothenflue, which stood on the opposite side of the valley. Stung with remorse, he fled away from the sight of man, wandered an outcast among the wilds like Cain, and perished miserably.

At the hamlet of Zweilütschinen, about two miles from the entrance of the valley, it divides into two branches: that on the l., from which flows the Black *Lütschine*, is the valley of Grindelwald. The carriage-road to Grindelwald (Rte. c) crosses the bridge and leads up the valley, terminated by the gigantic mass and everlasting snows of the Wetterhorn

(Rte. 25 D); that of the rt., traversed by the White *Lütschine*, is the valley of the Lauterbrunnen, and it ought to be visited first.

The valley of Lauterbrunnen is remarkable for its depth, its contracted width, and for the precipices of limestone, nearly vertical, which enclose it like walls. Its name, literally translated, means "nothing but fountains;" and is derived, no doubt, from the number of streamlets which cast themselves headlong from the brows of the cliffs into the valley below, looking at a distance like so many pendulous white threads.

The road to Lauterbrunnen passes under the base of a colossal precipice, called Hunnentflue, whose face displays singular contortions in the limestone strata. If the clouds permit, the summit of the Jungfrau now bursts into sight; and soon after, surmounting a steep slope, we reach

Lauterbrunnen. Inn: Capricorn (Steinbock), good, rather dear; 20 horses are kept here.

This village contains about 1350 Inhab., dwelling in rustic houses, scattered widely apart, along both banks of the torrent. It lies 2450 ft. above the sea, so sunk between precipices that, in summer, the sun does not appear till 7 o'clock, and in winter not before 12. Only the hardier species of grain grow here, and the climate is almost too rough for pears and apples. About 30 shoots of water dangle from the edge of the ramparts which form the sides of the valley; and, when their tops are enveloped in clouds, appear to burst at once from the sky: many of them are dried up in summer. These minor falls, however, are all eclipsed by that of the *Staubbach*, distant about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from the inn. It is one of the loftiest falls in Europe, measuring between 800 and 900 feet in height; and from this cause, and from the comparatively small body of water forming it, it is shivered by the wind into spray like dust long before it reaches the bottom (whence its name—literally, *Dust-stream*).

Strangers, who expect in the *Staubbach* the rushing and roaring rapidity

of a cataract, will here be disappointed; but, in the opinion of many, this want is atoned for by other beauties peculiar to this fall. The friction of the rock, and the resistance of the air, retard the descent of the water, giving it, when seen in front, the appearance of a beautiful lace veil suspended from the precipice, and imitating, in its centre, the folds of the drapery. When very full, it shoots out from the rock, and is bent by the wind into flickering undulations. Byron has described it admirably, both in prose and verse:—

"The torrent is in shape, curving over the rock, like the tail of a white horse streaming in the wind—such as it might be conceived would be that of the 'pale horse' on which Death is mounted in the Apocalypse. It is neither mist nor water, but a something between both: its immense height gives it a wave or curve—a spreading here or condensation there—wonderful and indescribable."—*Journal*.

"It is not noon—the sunbow's rays still arch
The torrent with the many hues of heaven,
And roll the sheeted silver's waving column
O'er the crags headlong perpendicular,
And fling its lines of foaming light along,
And to and fro, like the pale courser's tail,
The giant steed to be bestrode by Death,
As told in the Apocalypse." *Manfred*.

The Staubbach is seen to perfection before noon, when the iris formed by the sun falling full upon it, "like a rainbow come down to pay a visit—moving as you move," and the shadow of the water on the face of the rock, give an additional interest. At other times it is as well seen from the inn as from the nearest point which can be reached without becoming drenched with spray. Wordsworth has called it "a sky-born waterfall;" and when the clouds are low and rest on the sides of the valley, it literally appears to leap from the sky. In winter, when the torrent is nearly arrested by the frost, a vast pyramid of ice is formed by the dripping of the water from above, increasing gradually upwards in the manner of a stalagmite, until the colossal icicle reaches nearly half way up the precipice.

There is a smaller upper-fall above the one seen from Lauterbrunnen. A footpath leads up to it in $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour, but few think it worth the trouble of the ascent.

Ulrich Lauener, of Lauterbrunnen, is a celebrated guide. His brother Johann lost his life in pursuit of chamois on the precipices of the Jungfrau. A younger brother, Christian Lauener, is a good and steady guide.

[A very *Interesting *Excursion* may be made from Lauterbrunnen to the range immediately E. of the village. About 200 yards beyond the village a good horse-road ascends rapidly to the rt., crosses the stream of the Staubbach above the falls, and reaches in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. the highland village of Mürren. **Inn* (H. du Silberhorn); it is well to agree about prices beforehand, especially if you stay 2 or 3 days. The view of the Oberland chain is very fine, and is further improved by ascending to a point about half an hour above the inn. The Jungfrau is seen from top to bottom, better than from Wengern Alp. But the main object of attraction is the adjoining peak of the *Schilthorn* (9799 Eng. ft.), commanding one of the finest views in the whole range of the Alps. It may be reached from Mürren in from 3 to 4 hrs., the greater part of the way by an excellent horse-path, but at the end over some snow, by a steep and rather difficult ascent, in some states of the snow. It has been frequently accomplished by ladies. A melancholy catastrophe occurred here, 1865: Mrs. Arbuthnot, while making the ascent with her husband, was struck dead by lightning. Mountaineers may descend into the *Seefinen-Thal* (Rte. 36), and thence into the Upper Valley of Lauterbrunnen. Guides may be had in abundance at Mürren.

Upper Valley of Lauterbrunnen.

Of the multitudes who visit Lauterbrunn, a very small proportion trouble themselves to explore the upper part of the valley, the scenery of which is of the highest order of beauty. The fall of the *Schmadribach*

is quite a sufficient object for a day's excursion; being, in truth, inferior to few in Switzerland. It is a large body of water, which, issuing from the glacier, throws itself immediately over a precipice of great height, and again makes two more leaps, of inferior height, but great beauty, before reaching the bottom of the valley. The road on leaving Lauterbrunnen continues nearly on a level, underneath the magnificent crags of the Black Monk, while numerous cascades of the Staubbach character, leap from the lofty crags on the rt. into the valley.

The curious little cascade of the Trümmelbach, issuing from a deep ravine under the Jungfrau, may be visited by the way. The road as far as Steckelberg, about 1 hr. from Lauterbrunnen, is practicable for a small char, beyond that place it is so narrow that horses can alone go for another $\frac{3}{4}$ hr., as far as the hamlet of *Trachsel Lauinen*, opposite which will be seen the remains of an avalanche, called by the same name, which falls annually from the Jungfrau, and spreads its ruins over a surface of many hundred acres. An hour farther, in which there is a steep ascent to be surmounted, stands a single *châlet*, near the foot of the lower fall; from which there is $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour's sharp ascent to the foot of the upper fall. Deciduous trees cease below *Trachsel Lauinen*; thence to the fall, the way lies generally through pine forests, and the pasturage is abundant to a much greater height. High above tower the summits of the chain, which, branching from the Jungfrau, is continued in an unbroken line of ice to the Gemmi.

If the path hitherto taken to the upper fall be still further followed, it leads over some marshy land and, in $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. sharp ascent to the rt., to the highest pasturages in this part of the Alps, immediately under the glaciers of the Breithorn. The view hence is very fine. The Steinberg (Rte. 35) may be easily reached by descending a rather faintly-marked path to the rt., leading close to the Tschingel glacier, and in $\frac{1}{4}$ hr. to a cowhouse. The

stream must here be crossed, and the higher path followed, when the Steinberg is attained almost on a level. The view from this point is magnificent, and embraces the whole range of the giants of this portion of the Alps from the Jungfrau to the Blumlis, in close proximity. It is quite possible to descend from the Steinberg and ascend the Mürren without going into the valley. The path is not difficult to find, as it is tolerably well marked near the Steinberg *châlet*, and its direction thence easily seen. It enters the mule-road to Mürren near the fine fall of the stream, issuing from the Sefinen Thal.

c. Lauterbrunnen to Grindelwald,—a. By the char-road. b. By the Wengern Alp.

Both Lauterbrunnen and Grindelwald may be visited in one rather long day from Interlaken, returning in the evening. If the Wengern Alp route is chosen, a char may be taken at Interlaken, and the saddle-horses may be used to draw the char, saddles being taken with it. The char may then be left at Lauterbrunnen, and will be run down by boys to the junction of the Grindelwald road, where it will be found by the tourists, who will in the mean time have crossed the Wengern Alp, and come down from Grindelwald on the char-horses. One horse, 20 fr.; two horses, 40 fr. for this expedition.

a. By the high-road the time occupied in going from Lauterbrunnen to Grindelwald is about 2 hrs.—the distance about 9 m. It is necessary to return down the valley as far as the *Zwei-Lutschinen*, then, crossing the White, to ascend, by the side of the Black Lutschine, a long ascent through a valley, not unlike that of Simla at the base of the Himalayas, with the precipices of the Wetterhorn and the peaks of the Eiger in the background. Nearer to Grindelwald the two glaciers appear in sight.

b. In fine weather there are few more interesting or exciting journeys on horseback among the Alps than

that over the *Wengern Alp*, or *Lesser Scheideck*. Independently of the glorious view of the Jungfrau, and other giants of the Bernese chain, it is from the *Wengern Alp* that avalanches are seen and heard in greatest perfection, and no one should abandon the expedition without an effort. It occupies 7 hrs., including 2 hrs. halt at the summit. It is constantly traversed by ladies on horseback, or in a chaise à porteur (§ 10). Those who are at all able to walk need take a horse to the summit only, for which one day is charged; for the whole journey, 1½ day.

The bridle-path turns off at the chapel nearly opposite the Staubbach, and after crossing the river ascends steep zigzags, which lead out of the valley of Lauterbrunnen, in order to surmount the ridge separating it from that of Grindelwald. After nearly an hour of toilsome ascent, passing the houses of a scattered hamlet, it reaches a more gradual slope of meadow land. The valley of Lauterbrunn, beneath whose precipices the traveller has previously crept with some little awe, presents from this height the aspect of a mere trench; the Staubbach is reduced to a thin thread, and its upper fall, and previous winding, before it makes its final leap, are exposed to view and looked down upon. The path winds to the rt. round the shoulder of the hill, and then, becoming steep and slippery, crosses the meadows advancing towards the Jungfrau, which now rises in front of the spectator, with its vast expanse of snow and glacier, in all its magnificence. Not only its summit, but all the mass of the mountain above the level of the spectator, is white with perpetual snow of virgin purity, which breaks off abruptly at the edge of a black precipice, forming one side of a ravine separating the Jungfrau from the *Wengern Alp*. It appears to be within gun-shot of the spectator—so colossal are its proportions, that the effect of distance is lost.

About half an hour's walk short of the col of the Lesser Scheideck (where also there is an Inn) is a very

tolerable Inn, *H. de la Jungfrau*, containing 20 beds to accommodate strangers who choose to await the sunrise at this elevation, on the brow of the ravine, 5350 ft. above the sea-level, directly facing the Jungfrau. From this point the mountain is best seen, as well as the avalanches descending from it. The precipice before alluded to, which forms the base of the mountain, is channelled with furrows or grooves, down which the avalanches descend. They are most numerous a little after noon, when the sun and wind exercise the greatest influence on the glacier in loosening masses of it, and causing them to break off.

The attention is first arrested by a distant roar, not unlike thunder, and in half a minute, a gush of white powder, resembling a small cataract, is perceived issuing out of one of the upper grooves or gullies; it then sinks into a low fissure, and is lost only to reappear at a lower stage some hundred feet below; soon after another roar, and a fresh gush from a lower gully, till the mass of ice, reaching the lowest step, is precipitated into the gulf below. By watching attentively the sloping white side of the Jungfrau, the separation of the fragment of ice from the mass of the glacier which produces this thunder, may be seen at the moment when disengaged and before the sound reaches the ear. Sometimes it merely slides down over the surface, at others it turns over in a cake; but in an instant after it disappears, is shattered to atoms, and, in passing through the different gullies, apparently ground to a fine powder. Independent of the sound, which is an awful interruption of the silence usually prevailing on the high Alps, there is nothing grand or striking in these falling masses: and, indeed, it is difficult, at first, to believe that these echoing thunders arise from so slight a cause in appearance. The spectator must bear in mind that they are at the distance of 1 m. from him, that at each discharge whole tons of ice are hurled down the mountain, and that the seeming dust to which it is reduced includes block s capable

of sweeping away large trees, if such occurred in their course. During the early part of the summer three or four such discharges may be seen in an hour; in cold weather they are less numerous; in the autumn scarcely any occur. The avalanches finally descend into the valley of Trümleten, the uninhabited ravine dividing the Jungfrau from the Wengern Alp, far deeper than travellers along the mule-track have any idea of; and, on melting, send forth a stream which falls into the Lutschine, a little above Lauterbrunnen. [Mr. Galton visited in August, 1863, the principal gully down which the avalanches find their way to the Trümleten Thal, and found the excursion perfectly practicable and free from danger, in $1\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 hrs. from the Inn. The guides in 1864 pointed out a still easier way. The stream at the bottom of the valley is crossed by a bridge; then a talus of snow and ice that has fallen from the Guggi glacier: thence along a slope of sward to the rocky cliffs of the Jungfrau by the side of the gully. "When the avalanches appeared, the sights and sounds were worthy of the scale on which they were enacted. The perpendicular fall of the detached masses of snow and ice before they reach the head of the gully, must be 2000 ft. The length of the gully is nearly 1000 ft. more, and the talus of ice debris extends through almost 2000 ft. beyond. Hence the entire fall of the avalanche is nearly 5000 ft. of perpendicular descent. The avalanches give timely notice of their coming by a prodigious roar and a menacing cloud of snow-dust, shot out overhead. When they appeared as an ice cataract at the foot of the gully, the hurtling of the ice-balls in the air (ground into that shape by mutual attraction), and their crash when they fall was almost frightful. The storm was irregular in its outbursts. Frequently there were vast gushes of water, due to some subglacial reservoir, whose foremost wall had partly supplied the avalanche. When fragments of snow and ice reached the *talus* or slope, they slide

swiftly and steadily, side by side, with a rustling sound. They are all of them rounded balls, mostly of about 1 ft. in diameter, and never exceeding 1 yard. There were two good points of view by the side of the talus; one was near a gorge which interrupted the regularity of its course, and the other was much lower down, at the place whence almost the entire ice cascade, as well as the talus, could be seen in one long straight line. But by far the grandest position is at the very foot of the gully; to reach this requires help from a guide. Overhanging slabs of rock afford a niche within 80 yards of its mouth, that seems perfectly secure from any fall of snow over the face of the cliff that is likely to occur in the summer-time.

A large party, mostly of ladies and children, made the expedition in 1864 without difficulty, from the Jungfrau Hotel to the side of the avalanche path, in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., all delays included. They rode for 1 hr. 6 min., and leaving the horses to await their return, at a group of mayens, 1450 ft. below the level of the Jungfrau Hotel, walked the rest of the way. Leaving the Jungfrau Hotel the route follows the main road towards Lauterbrunnen for 22 min., then turns l., down to a cattle-stable, whose large roof shows clearly some 300 ft. below the road, and 8 min. short of the Bellevue H. Thence down a grass-field, bearing right towards Mürren, which is conspicuously perched in the far distance on its Alp. Then through a forest (part of the way steep and slippery for horses), past a single small mayen, to a group of them; here the horses must be left. Then on foot over a bridge, and onwards bearing to the rt., without ascending, winding round the shoulder of the small hill opposite, to the side of the Guggi glacier, or rather avalanche path. The rte. continues for 5 min. alongside its moraine, but separated from it by a torrent, which pours into an ice cavern. Below this cavern, 25 min. from the mayens, the glacier is crossed, at a level of 1600 ft. below the Jungfrau Hotel. It is 120 yards broad, and so distant from

the ice cliffs that feed it, that a person need hardly hasten his usual pace, even if an avalanche were to detach itself when he was exactly halfway across, and in the very centre of its path. The opposite side of the valley is ascended by a goat-track, close to the rock that first shows signs of herbage, reckoning from the l. There is here a "mauvais pas" up which children will scramble without assistance. It is a much better way than that which was described by Mr. Galton, lower down to the rt.

Henceforward the way lies for 20 min. over thick grass, and among rhododendron bushes, till it reaches the side of the ravine, down which the avalanches pour. It is better to wait on the grass, 100 yards from its brink, running to the scene as soon as the avalanche has begun to fall, and is clearly not likely to overpass the bounds of its regular channel. Its sides bear marks of being swept by avalanches in the spring, but they are rarely, though sometimes, touched by the falling snow in summer. To reach the actual foot of the gorge through which the avalanche dashes, requires a scramble up to a somewhat higher terrace; in effecting which a guide and a rope would be required by all except good mountaineers, and might be acceptable even to them.]

A part of Lord Byron's 'Manfred' was either written or mentally composed on the Wengern Alp, in full view of the Jungfrau. He says in his Journal, "Heard the avalanches falling every five minutes nearly. The clouds rose from the opposite valley, curling up perpendicular precipices, like the foam of the ocean of hell during a spring tide—it was white and sulphury, and immeasurably deep in appearance. The side we ascended was not of so precipitous a nature; but, on arriving at the summit, we looked down upon the other side upon a boiling sea of cloud, dashing against the crags on which we stood—these crags on one side quite perpendicular. In passing the masses of snow, I made a snowball, and pelted Hobbhouse with it."—*Swiss Journal*.

"Ye toppling crags of ice—
Ye avalanches, whom a breath draws down
In mountainous o'erwhelming, come and crush
me!

*I hear ye momentarily above, beneath,
Crash with a frequent conflict; but ye pass,
And only fall on things that still would live;
On the young flourishing forest, or the hut
And hamlet of the harmless villager.
The mists boil up around the glaciers; clouds
Rise curling far beneath me, white and sulphury,
Like foam from the roused ocean of deep hell!"*
Manfred.

A day may be enjoyably spent on the Wengern Alp in thoroughly taking in the grand scenery which it commands. The Lauberhorn, with a more extensive and varied view, may be easily reached in about 1½ hr. from either of the inns on the pass.

Beyond the Jungfrau Hotel the track is tolerably level, and in about 2 miles the col or summit of the pass is attained (6690 ft.), where also there is a tolerable Inn (H. Bellevue). The view is very fine, including, besides the Jungfrau, the Mönch, the two Eighers, and the Wetterhorn. Travellers should on no account omit walking ¼ hr. to the very verge of the valley (local jealousies have prevented the formation of a footpath). They should walk past the flagstaff, and keep gently rising, following the inns and outs of the small spurs in their way, and past a watering-place for cattle, till they arrive suddenly on the edge of a cliff overlooking the Trümlethen Thal, and become aware of its little suspected depths and the avalanche debris which strew its bottom. The grandeur of the Jungfrau range greatly rises in the estimation of those who have seen it from here. The Jungfrau, or Virgin, received its name either from the unsullied purity of the snow, or because its crest was long deemed inaccessible to human foot. Like most of the other peaks of the Alps, she has lost her claim to the title on the latter score, the highest peak having most probably been reached for the first time in 1811, and again in 1812, by the brothers Meyer, of Aarau; it was again attained in 1828 by 6 peasants from Grindelwald; and, in August,

1841, by M. Agassiz, of Neuchâtel, accompanied by Professor Forbes, of Edinburgh, and a Swiss and French gentleman. The course they pursued was by the Ober-Aar glacier to that of Viesch, and then by following up the Aletsch glacier from the Marjelen-see. It has since been ascended by M. Studer and by several English travellers. The Jungfrau rises to an elevation of 13,671 ft. above the sea-level. The Silber-hörner, ascended in 1863 by Messrs. Fellenberg and Boedecker, are inferior peaks of the Jungfrau. Farther on appear the Mönch, or Klein Eigher, 13,438 ft., and the Great Eigher (Giant), 13,044 ft. On approaching Grindenwald, the Schreckhorn (Peak of Terror), 13,394 ft., comes into sight. The sharp, needle-formed point of the Finster-Aarhorn, the highest of the group, 14,039 ft. above the sea-level, is only visible at intervals peering above his brethren. The glaciers, which cling around these peaks, and fill up the depressions between them, extend without interruption from the Jungfrau to the Grimsel, and from Grindelwald, in canton Berne, nearly to the hamlets of Viesch and Möril, in the Valais. The extent of this glacier field has been calculated at 115 square miles, or about one-sixth of all the glaciers among the Alps.

The descent to Grindelwald takes up about $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., milk, strawberries, and beggars at frequent intervals by the wayside. The path is steep, and for 20 min. lies over marshy ground. It passes within sight of a forest said to have been mown down by the fall of avalanches, but more probably decaying, as is not unusual on the higher grounds at present. The trunks, broken short off close to the ground, still stand like stubble left by the scythe. Byron describes "whole woods of withered pines—all withered; trunks stripped and barkless; branches lifeless; done by a single winter—their appearance reminded me of me and my family."

In descending into the valley, the *Wetterhorn* (ascended by Mr. Wills in 1855) is seen in front, and on the l.

the Faulhorn, surmounted by its inn. On the rt., low down, appears the white lower glacier of Grindelwald, issuing out of a gorge, on a level with the habitations of the valley.

Grindelwald.—*Inns*: Bär (Bear) at the W. of the village; Adler (Eagle) at the E. end. Also H. du Glacier, at the entrance of the village from Lauterbrunnen; and another H., the Eiger, between the Adler and the Bär. The pension of the Adler is a charming residence.

The village of Grindelwald, consisting of picturesque wooden cottages, widely scattered over the valley, stands at a height of 3250 ft. above the sea, from which cause, and from its vicinity to the glaciers, the climate of the valley is cold, and unstable even in summer. Its inhabitants are chiefly employed in rearing cattle, of which 6000 head are fed on the neighbouring pastures; and many act as guides. Peter Bohren is perhaps the best. Christian Bleuver and Hildbrand Burgner are also recommended for difficult mountain excursions. Christian Bohren has been well spoken of as a general guide. The younger females pick up a few halfpence by singing Ranz de Vaches at the inns, and most of the children are beggars—occupations arising from the influx of strangers into the valley, which has exercised an injurious influence upon its morals and ancient simplicity of manners. The valley has not been inhabited above 400 years, and the peasants assert that the climate becomes gradually worse, and give instances which seem to bear out their statement. It is certain that there were in former days several paths into the Valais which are now impassable; and it is said that the peasants of Grindelwald used to cross to the Valais to be married.

Grindelwald owes its celebrity, as a place of resort for travellers, to the grandeur of the mountains which surround it, and to its two *Glaciers* (§ 16), which, as they descend into the very bottom of the valley below the level of the village, and almost within a

stone's-throw of human habitations, are more easily accessible here than in other parts of Switzerland. Three gigantic mountains form the S. side of the valley—the Eigher, or Giant; the Mettenberg (Middle Mountain), which is, in fact, the base or pedestal of the magnificent peak called Schreckhorn; and the Wetterhorn (Peak of Tempests), at the upper end. Between these three mountains the two glaciers of Grindelwald issue out. They are branches of that vast field or ocean of ice mentioned above as occupying the table-land and high valleys amidst the Bernese Alps, and, being pushed downwards by the constantly-increasing masses above, descend far below the line of perpetual snow (§ 16). Their chief beauty arises from their being bordered by forests of fir, which form, as it were, a graceful fringe to the white ice, while the green pastures, with which they are almost in contact near the base, contrast agreeably with their frozen peaks. Though inferior in extent to those of Chamouni, of the Aar and of Aletsch, the traveller who has seen even them will do well to explore the Glaciers of Grindelwald.

The Lower Glacier, also called the smaller, although four times as large as the upper one, forces its way out between the Eigher and Mettenberg, and it descends to a point only 3200 feet above the level of the sea. A path ascends along its left margin, beneath the precipices of the Mettenberg, and past a chalet where wine can be got, commanding a view of the bristling minarets of ice, of the lower portion of the glacier, and affording means of paying a visit to its middle portion, which is one of the pleasantest excursions on the Alps; with a local guide occupying 5 or 6 hrs. in the whole, including 1 or 2 on the ice, and not fatiguing. It is not good for timid persons, as the path skirts some formidable precipices, and the recent shrinking of the ice compels travellers to descend by a ladder of perhaps 50 steps, clamped to the face of the cliff, a small fee is paid for descending it;

but it is taken by ladies, who may ride on horseback for the first three quarters of an hour, and be conveyed to the ladder in a chaise à porteur. It offers to those who cannot mount great heights one of the grandest and wildest glacier views imaginable, the cultivated valley being completely hidden, and nothing visible but the enormous peaks of the Eigher, Schreckhorn, Viescherhörner, &c., which form a superb amphitheatre, very little inferior to the scene from the Jardin. In 1821 M. Mouron, a clergyman of Vevay, was lost in one of the crevices. Suspicions were entertained that the guide who accompanied him had murdered him, and search was immediately commenced for the body. After 12 days of fruitless attempts, it was at length drawn out by a guide named Burgener, who was let down from above at the peril of his life, by a rope, with a lantern tied to his neck. The watch and the purse of the unfortunate man were found upon him, so that the suspicions regarding the guide were proved to be groundless. He was buried in the church of Grindelwald.

In following the path to the chalet we arrive at a singular depression in the rocks, called *Martinsdruck*, pointed out to the traveller, and opposite to it, in the crest of the Eigher, a small hole, called *Martinsloch*, through which the sun's rays shine twice a-year. Once on a time, according to the tradition, the basin now occupied by the Eismeer was filled with a lake, but the space between the Mettenberg and the Eigher being much narrower than at present, the outlet from it was constantly blocked up, and inundations produced, which ruined the fields of the peasants in the valley below. At length St. Martin, a holy giant, came to their rescue; he seated himself on the Mettenberg, resting his staff on the Eigher, and then, with one lusty heave of his brawny back, not only burst open the present wide passage between the two mountains, but left the marks of his seat on the one, and drove his walking-stick right through the other.

A very fine avalanche is occasionally seen from this path to fall from the precipices on the other side of the glacier. In about 2 hrs. walk from Grindelwald the path reaches the place where it becomes necessary to take to the level ice, and the ladder is descended. The path thus far is the beginning of the Strahleck pass (Rte. 27 A). The tourist may now take a promenade on the ice to the châteaux of Stiereck, or making a partial circuit round the Mettenberg, climb it as high as he has a mind. At every step the grandeur of the ice-field in front of him increases.

At the foot of the lower Glacier $\frac{1}{4}$ hr. from the Inn, is a grotto hewn in the ice, the beauty of the blue light transmitted through its walls repays the 50 cents the maker of it exacts from visitors. The foot of the glacier is otherwise as dirty and unattractive as the feet of glaciers usually are.

An extensive quarry of ice for the markets of Paris and elsewhere has been established here, and is in full operation after the busy season of the year. Hundreds of workmen hew squared blocks, which are wheeled to a cottage on the west end of Grindelwald, thence it is carted to Neuhaus, shipped to Thun, and taken direct to its destination by rail.

[The glacier passes from Grindelwald to the Äggishorn are five in number, and occupy respectively from 16 to 22 hrs. actual walking. Those between the Mönch and the Viescher Hörner, and between the Mönch and the Jungfrau, are the shortest. The former is the easier, the latter is said to be the noblest of all.]

The *Upper Glacier* may be visited going over the Scheideck. The ice of its lower portion has an unusually clean and pure surface.

Ascent of the Faulhorn.

The Faulhorn is a mountain 8674 ft. above the sea-level, situated be-

tween the valley of Grindelwald and the lake of Brienz, and commanding, from its summit, an excellent *near* view over the neighbouring chain of Bernese Alps. On this account it is ascended in the summer-time, like the Rigi, by travellers. It may be reached from Grindelwald, or from the summit of the great Scheideck pass, and probably this year, 1865, from the Schynige Platte, by horse; or from the Giesbach, on the lake of Brienz, by foot.

Ladies who do not ride may be carried from Grindelwald in "chaises à porteurs," with 4 bearers to each chair, at 6 frs. each; or if the party sleep on the Faulhorn, 9 frs. A *guide* to the top is well paid with 6 frs., or 9 if they remain all night: a horse 15 frs. up and down; but 30 fr. (an extravagant price) is charged for horses from Interlaken. The Inn on the summit is closed in October. It has 24 beds and a fair larder, but the charges are sometimes extravagant. In the height of summer you must secure beds beforehand, or be early on the top. The path from Grindelwald leads over the Bach Alp, by the side of a small lake, 1000 ft. below the summit, $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from Grindelwald. The view of the Bernese Alps from the top forms the chief feature of the panorama, which in this respect, and from the proximity of the Faulhorn to those snowy giants, far surpasses the prospect from the Rigi. On the other hand, though the lakes of Thun and Brienz are both visible, only a small strip of each appears, which is but a poor equivalent for the wide expanse of blue water which bathes the foot of the Rigi.

There is a footpath from the top of the Faulhorn, passing the waterfall of the Giesbach above the lake of Brienz: the distance is about 14 miles, but it is slightly marked, and not to be attempted without a guide. A circuitous but tolerably easy path leads in 2 hrs. from the Faulhorn to the Inn at the summit of the Scheideck.

Those who cannot reach the summit of the Faulhorn will be well re-

paid for mounting its slope for an hour or two on the road, in order to get the fine view of the S. side of the Grindelwald valley, which cannot be seen from Grindelwald itself or from the bottom of the valley.

[A far superior expedition for moderate mountaineers, and not much longer, is to the top of the Schwarzhorn, from Rosenlauri, or from the Great Scheideck. Take a rope. The view extends much more widely to the E. The mountain is some 1000 ft. higher, and is more isolated than the Faulhorn.]

D. Grindelwald to Reichenbach or Meyringen, by the Great Scheideck.

	Hours.
Grindelwald.	
Scheideck	3
Rosenlauri	2
Reichenbach	2½
	7½

About 20 Eng. m.; 6 hrs. fast walking. On horseback, for ladies, it is a ride of at least 9 hours, including halts. No guide is required.

[An hour's walk up the valley from Grindelwald, and a slight détour to the rt. of the direct path to Meyringen, leads to the *Upper Glacier*. (See above.)

The first hour from Grindelwald is through the meadows in the valley; afterwards the ascent is easy, and during the whole of it the *Wetterhorn* (Peak of Tempests) overhangs the path, an object of stupendous sublimity. It rises in one vast precipice of alpine limestone, apparently close above the traveller's head, though its base is more than a mile off. Avalanches descend from it in the spring and summer through four different channels, sometimes, though very rarely, extending to the path, and travellers have been exposed to danger from them. Mr. Wills, in his 'Wanderings among the High Alps,' has given an interesting account of his ascent of the outermost, or most northerly, of the three peaks of the *Wetterhorn*, that whose sharp summit is seen in passing the Great Scheideck.

Upon the slope in front of the *Wetterhorn* a man usually stations himself to blow the *alpine horn*, a rude tube of wood, 6 or 8 ft. long. A few seconds after the horn has ceased, the simple notes of the instrument are caught up and repeated by the echoes of the vast cliff of the *Wetterhorn*, and return to the ear refined and softened, yet perfectly distinct, as it were an aerial concert warbling among the crags.

The view down the valley of Grindelwald, from the Scheideck, is very striking: its green pastures contrast agreeably with the bare wall of the *Wetterhorn*. Beyond it, on the l., rises the sharp crest of the *Eigher*, resembling the up-turned edge of a hatchet. On the Scheideck (6480 ft. above the sea-level) stands an *Inn*, *Steinbock*, with rough sleeping and indifferent accommodation.

The prospect in the opposite direction, into the vale of the *Reichenbach* or of *Rosenlauri*, is not so remarkable. Two small glaciers are seen suspended on shelves of the precipitous range connecting the *Wetterhorn* and *Wellhorn*; further on, between the *Wellhorn* and *Engel-hörner* (angels' peaks), the *Glacier of Rosenlauri* lies embedded. By a détour to the rt. a curious glacier, the *Lower Glacier of Schwarzwald*, may be visited. It is composed altogether of snow and fragments of ice that fall from the upper part of the *Wetterhorn* into the valley which separates this part of the track, over the Scheideck, from the mountain. 1½ hr. in descending from the *Steinbock inn*, partly through a wood of firs, brings the traveller to the

Baths of Rosenlauri, a clean *Inn*, rebuilt on a larger scale, *Bär*, 2 hrs. from the summit, very prettily situated, near a source of mineral water, resembling closely that of *Harrogate*, which supplies baths. Wood carving is very well executed here. A few yards behind it the *Reichenbach* torrent issues out of a cleft in the rock. About 20 min. from the baths is the *Glacier of Rosenlauri*, which is smaller than those of Grindelwald, but is celebrated above

all others in Switzerland for the untarnished purity of its white surface, and the clear transparent azure of its icebergs. This peculiarity arises doubtless from its having no medial moraine (see § 16). The advance and retreat of the glacier may be very well observed here, as its bed is a flat rock, and this glacier is well worth a visit. A steep path on the l. of the glacier leads in about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour to the summit of a cliff which projects midway into the icy sea, and bends its course considerably. It forms a good point of view. The torrent issuing from this glacier has worn a deep chasm in the mountain side, in which, from the frail bridge thrown across it, the waters may be seen boiling some 200 ft. below.

The path to Meyringen runs by the side of this stream, first crossing a charming little green plain, carpeted with soft turf, like that of an English lawn, and dotted with chalets. The view up the valley from this point deserves particular notice: it is a favourite subject for the pencil of the artist. The Wetterhorn, the Wellhorn, and the craggy peaks called Engel-hörner, form a mountain group unrivalled for picturesqueness.

Below this the valley contracts; numerous waterfalls are seen dangling from its sides: one of them, from its height and tenuity, is called the Rope-fall (Seilbach); and now a bird's-eye view opens out into the vale of *Hasli*, or Meyringen, which, in comparison with the narrow glens of Grindelwald and Lauterbrunnen, deserves the name of a plain, though bounded by mountains high and steep.

The latter part of the descent leading into it is steep and rugged, and is paved with smooth and slippery blocks of stone. On this account travellers are usually invited to dismount, and descend on foot. The stream of the Reichenbach performs this descent of nearly 2000 ft. in a succession of leaps, the longest of which are the celebrated *Falls of the Reichenbach*. The upper fall is situated at a short distance to the l. of the road, near the village called

Zwirghi. A small fee is exacted for the liberty to cross the meadow between it and the road, and a hut called Belvedere is built beside it. But it is best seen from a rocky headland shooting out in front of the bare amphitheatre of cliffs over which the cataract dashes, and just above the struggling torrent, hurrying downwards after its fall. A little lower is another but inferior fall; and by a third, still lower, the stream gains the level of the valley, and hastens to join its waters to the Aar. The lowest fall is very near to the

Reichenbach Hotel, $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from Rosenlauri, is, when not overcrowded, a comfortable house, making up 40 beds, at the foot of the mountain near the hamlet of Willigegn, and is provided with hot and cold baths. Table-d'hôte 3 frs., bed 2 frs., breakfast 2 frs. H. des Alpes, also very comfortable. In fact, since the Reichenbach Hotel has been built and furnishes horses and chars, there is no necessity for going to Meyringen either on this route or on the Grimsel route. These hotels are distant about $\frac{1}{2}$ m., by a footpath and bridge over the Aar, from the village of

Meyringen — (*Inns*: Sauvage, best; ask for the fish called "Lotte"; — Reichenbad; — Alpes; — Couronne) — on the rt. bank of the Aar, the chief place in the vale of Hasli, is an excellent specimen of a Swiss village (2359 Prot. Inhab.). The picturesqueness of its situation is much praised. Brockedon says, "The vale of Meyringen concentrates as much of what is Alpine in its beauties as any valley in Switzerland." Its precipitous and wooded sides, streaked with white cascades almost without number, and here and there overtopped by some snow-white peak, are indeed beautiful features; yet the flat plain, 3 m. broad, half marsh and half dry gravel, from inundations of the river, is unpleasing from many points; and as a dwelling-place it has serious drawbacks from the danger to which it is exposed of

being swept away or inundated, if not buried, by the neighbouring torrents. It was to guard against such accidents that the stone dyke, 1000 ft. long and 8 wide, was constructed; but its protection has not been altogether effectual. The chief cause and instrument of all the mischief is the *Alpbach*, a mountain torrent pouring down from the height behind the village, out of a narrow gorge. The district in which it rises, and through which it takes its course, is composed of the rock known to geologists as the lias marl. Being very soft, it is easily disintegrated and washed away, so that the torrent, when swollen by rain or snow, collects, and bears along with it heaps of black sand and rubbish, intermixed with uprooted fir-trees, and is converted almost into a stream of mud, on which masses of rock float like corks. A torrent of such consistence is easily interrupted in its course through the narrow crevices which it seems to have sawn for itself by the force of its current: it then gathers into a lake behind the obstacles which impede it, until it is increased to such an extent as to bear everything before it, and to spread desolation over the valley through which its course lies. A catastrophe of this sort, in 1762, buried a large part of the village of Meyringen, in one hour, 20 ft. deep in rubbish, from which it has hardly yet emerged. The church was filled with mud and gravel to the height of 18 ft., as is denoted by the black line painted along its walls, and by the debris which still covers many of the fields and gardens around. In 1733 an inundation of the same stream carried away many houses.

There are 2 churches here, and the Swiss Government has lately given up one of them for the English service. The Rev. E. J. May, head master of the Nottingham Collegiate School, has made himself responsible for the expense of fitting up the ch., and solicits subscriptions.

Travellers should visit the Fall of the *Alpbach* about 9 in the morning, on account of the *triple bow*, or iris,

formed in its spray when the sun shines on it. The inner iris forms nearly a complete circle, and the outer ones are more or less circular as the water in the falls is abundant or not. The spot whence it is visible is within the spray from the cataract, so that those who would enjoy it must prepare for a wetting.

On a rock above the village rise the ruins of the *Castle of Resti*: it belonged to an ancient and noble family, to whom the praise is given of never tyrannizing over their humble dependants. The men of *Hasli* are celebrated for their athletic forms and strength. They hold *Schwingfeste*, or wrestling matches, every year, in July, August, and September, with their neighbours of Unterwalden and Grindelwald. The women, again, enjoy the reputation of being prettier, or rather less plain, than those of most other Swiss valleys. Their holiday costume is peculiar and not ungraceful, consisting of a bodice of black velvet reaching up to the throat, starched sleeves, a yellow petticoat, and a round black hat, not unlike a soup-plate, and about the same size, stuck on one side of the head, and allowing the hair to fall in long tresses down the back.

E. Meyringen to Interlaken, by Brienz and the Giessbach Falls.—Rothhorn.

1½ hr. drive or 7 Eng. m. to Brienz, and thence to Interlaken by water. 10 m. Char 6 fr.

There is an excellent char-road down the valley, passing numerous cascades leaping down the wall of rock. After proceeding for about 4 m. along the l. bank of the Aar, it crosses the river by a wooden bridge, just at the point where the branch of the Brünig road leading to Brienz (Rte. 19) descends into the valley. The Aar pursues its course through monotonous marsh and flat meadow land; but near its influx into the Lake of Brienz, the form of the mountains on its l. bank, above which towers the Faulhorn, is grand. In skirting the margin of the

lake, the road crosses vast heaps of débris, covering acres of land once fertile. A torrent of mud, in 1797, destroyed a considerable part of two villages near Kienholz; and a landslide from the Brienzerglat, the mountain immediately behind Brienz, overwhelmed, in November, 1824, 40 acres of land, and swept 6 persons into the lake.

Brienz—Inns: L'Ours, good; near the landing-place; Weisses Kreuz (Croix Blanche), clean, at Tracht (both rather dear). There is also an hotel at Kienholz, the Bellevue, about a mile from Brienz, towards Meyringen. Carriages may be hired at Brienz, over the Brünig Pass to Lungern: also to Meyringen or Reichenbach. The landlord of L'Ours is an intelligent man who speaks German, French, English, and Italian. Brienz is a small village at the E. end of the lake, on a narrow ledge at the foot of the mountains, remarkable only for its beautiful situation, and its vicinity to the Giessbach Fall. Ask for the *Lotte*, a fish of the lake (*gadus mustela*). This is a good place for buying carved wood-ware. From Brienz the traveller may ascend the *Rothhorn*, the highest point of the chain running behind (N. of) Brienz, which commands a view nearly as fine as the Faulhorn. Its top may be reached in about 4 hours by a stout walker, in 5 by a horse, and in 6 by a chaise à porteurs. The upward path lies at first through a region of fine forest-trees, chiefly beech, but including many oaks: to these succeed larch, and above them one-third of steep ascent over a bare and barren track. On the ascent, fine views are obtained through vistas in the forest of the Lake of Brienz. On the top a *chalet* was built, but it was destroyed by fire in 1846, and is not rebuilt. The summit is higher than the Rigi, and not so high as the Faulhorn. It takes 2 or 3 hrs. to descend. The chief features of the view are—S. the range of Bernese Alps, with a foreground of the lake of Brienz close under the mountain, and a peep of the lake of Thun in the gap above Interlaken. Besides this, the vale of Meyringen,

from the lake of Brienz up nearly to the Grimsel, the range of the Titlis and Sustenhorn, the lake of Sarnen, with a small lake that may be seen in the foreground, a considerable part of the lake of Lucerne, the Rigi rising from it, and a bit of the lake of Zug, are visible. Pilate makes a prominent figure. The lake of Constance also appears, and a long strip of the lake of Neuchâtel. The view of the high Alps from the Rothhorn is not so fine as that from the Faulhorn, but that of the lower country is finer.

Lake of Brienz.—Giessbach Falls.

A small *Steamer* runs daily, in 1 hr., between Brienz and Interlaken, touching at the Giessbach every trip. If the traveller misses the steamer, or prefers a row-boat, it takes about 3 hrs., including a digression to Giessbach. Boat, 10 fr., 2 fr. bonnemain.

The lake of Brienz is about 8 m. long; its surface is 1781 ft. above the sea level; near the mouth of the Giessbach, 500 ft. deep, but in the deepest part 2100 ft.? Its surface is about 30 ft. higher than the lake of Thun.

There is a carriage-road, much improved, but rough in parts, between Interlaken and Brienz. By this and the new road of the Brünig the entire distance from Interlaken to the Lake of Lucerne is open for carriages. There is also a very pretty foot-road along the S. side of the lake by the Giessbach. It takes 25 min. to row from Brienz to the landing-place, close to the outlet of the *Giessbach*, where travellers begin to ascend the very steep though excellent road, that leads in 20 min. to the *Falls*. They are a succession of cascades, leaping step by step from the top of the mountain; and, though inferior in height to the Reichenbach, surpass it in beauty, and in the adjuncts of a rich forest of fir, through the midst of which they break their way. The Giessbach is one of the prettiest of

waterfalls: there is nothing wild about it, and the immediate contact of green turfy knolls and dark woods has the effect of a park scene. It is possible to pass behind the third fall by means of a gallery constructed beneath the shelving rock, from which it casts itself down; and the effect of the landscape seen athwart this curtain of water is singular. An excellent hotel, making up about 100 beds, has been opened close to the Falls. It affords by far the best quarters in the Bernese Oberland. Paths have been cut through the woods to the best points of view; and the Falls are lighted up with Bengal lights every night. The effect is very beautiful, it is like a fairy scene at an opera, 1 fr. per head is charged in the Hotel bills, on account of it. The cottage opposite the Falls was formerly inhabited by the schoolmaster of Brienz, whose family and himself were celebrated as the best choristers of native airs in Switzerland. Good specimens of the Swiss manufacture of carved wood may be purchased at the Giessbach.

[There is a path from the Giessbach to the top of the Faulhorn, a walk of nearly 5 hrs., and difficult to find.]

ROUTE 26.

PASSES OF THE GRIMSEL AND FURCA—
MEYRINGEN OR REICHENBACH TO HOSPENTHAL.

	Hours.
Meyringen or Reichenbach.	
Guttanen	3½
Handek	1½
Grimsel Hospice	2
Mayenwand lun	1¼
Furca	2½
Realp	2
Hospenthal	1¼

A good char-road has been carried past Reichenbach Baths over the Kir-

chet to Imhof, beyond which is a much-frequented bridle-path.

This is an important line of communication to the tourist. It is striking in itself, for it passes the falls of Handek, and the glacier of the Rhone. Many and most interesting excursions diverge from it.

To those coming from Brienz or down the Scheideck (Rte. 25 D), Reichenbach is the best starting point, and it is unnecessary to go to Meyringen. But those coming across the Brünig or from Meyringen cross the Aar by a wooden bridge, and in about 20 min. fall into the Reichenbach road.

The vale of Hasli now contracts, and in about 2 m. is crossed by a mound or hill near 800 ft. high, called the *Kirchet*, which appears at one time to have dammed up the waters of the Aar. At present they force their way through a singularly narrow rent, which cleaves the eminence from top to bottom. At this point is a remarkable arched cavern, called the *Finster Aar Schlucht*, which extends by a precipitous but quite practicable descent, from the summit of the Kirchet to the Aar. It is a fissure in the limestone rock through which water has formerly flowed; and from the great size of the opening, it would seem that a stream as large as the Aar must at one time have passed through it. It may be seen without occasioning the traveller more than an hour's delay. There is a sign-post l. of the road to direct him. The beautiful scenery at the upper mouth of the cavern, and the savage grandeur of the perpendicular rocks, as the path emerges upon the margin of the Aar, will amply compensate the labour of the descent. On the Kirchet are erratic blocks of granite on the limestone, the origin of which has been discussed by M. Agassiz, Prof. Bernard Studer, and by Prof. Ramsay. (See § 16). The path, leaving for a short time the river on the l. and the char-road on the rt., mounts the steep eminence of the Kirchet in zigzags, and then descends into the retired green valley of Upper Hasli, which is in the form of a basin,

surrounded by hills, and was once probably a lake. [Two valleys open out into it; on the S. that of Urbach, on the E. that of Gadmen, up which runs the path leading by the pass of the Susten (Rte. 32) to Wasen. By taking the path to the rt. on descending from the Kirchet, a detour may be made into the Urbach Thal, the scenery of which is wild and striking. An ill-traced path along the W. slope of the valley of the Aar leads from the opening of the Urbach Thal to Guttanen.] On the l. lies the village Im-Grund, and, crossing the Aar, another village, called *Im-Hof*, situated between it and the Gadmen river, is passed;—all in the little plain. The char road here ceases. From Im-Hof (*Inn*, good wine) a path branches off to Engelberg over the Joch pass (Rte. 33). Another ravine is succeeded by a second enlargement of the valley called Im-Boden. Higher up is "the small and lonely village" of

Guttanen—*Inn*, fair. The best place for a midday halt to rest the mules is

Handek (*Inn*, clean and good). It is best to sleep here if it be late, and there be a chance of the Hospice being crowded. About $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour's walk beyond Guttanen. It stands close to the *Falls of the Aar*, perhaps the finest cataract in Switzerland, from its height (more than 200 ft.), the quantity and rush of water, the gloom of the gorge into which it precipitates itself, and the wild character of the rocky solitude around it. It is also remarkably easy of access, so that the traveller may form a full estimate of its grandeur; surveying it, first, from below, through the vista of black rocks into which it plunges, and afterwards from above, stretching his neck over the brow of the precipice from which the river takes its leap, and watching it (if his nerves be steady) till it is lost in the spray of the dark abyss below.

The view from this point, not more than 5 or 6 ft. above the fall which few will hesitate to call the best, is exceedingly impressive and stimulating. So plentiful is the rush of water that it reaches more than halfway

down in one unbroken glassy sheet before it is tossed into white foam; and, what adds to its beauty, is, that another stream (the Erlenbach or Handek), pouring in from the right at this very spot, takes precisely the same leap, mingling its tributary waters midway with the more powerful column of the Aar. Between 10 o'clock and 1 the iris may be seen hovering over the fall.

The dark forest of fir through which the route has wound for a considerable distance, now dwindles away into a few dwarf bushes, and disappears entirely a little above Handek. To them succeed the scanty vegetation of rank grass, rhododendron, and lichen; and even this partial covering disappears prematurely, in some places being abraded and peeled off. There is a spot about 2 m. above Handek, called *Böse Seite*, or *Helleplatte*, where the path crosses the bed of an ancient glacier which, in former times extending thus far down the valley, has ground smooth and polished, by its weight and friction, the surface of the sloping and convex granite rock, leaving, here and there upon the surface, horizontal grooves or furrows, which may be compared to the scratches made by a diamond upon glass. This polished rock (*roche montonnée*) extends for a space of nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ m. Professor Agassiz has here left his autograph in the granite. It used to be customary and prudent to dismount here, and cross this bad bit of road on foot, since the surface of the rock, though chiselled into grooves, to secure a footing for the horses, was very slippery; but a secure path, and a stout post and rail on the side of the abyss, is now carried over the slippery rock. The valley of the Aar, up which the narrow path is carried, looks stern and forbidding from its sterility, and the threatening cliffs of granite which overhang it. The Aar is crossed several times by dizzy bridges of a single arch, formed of granite slabs without a parapet. There is but one human habitation between Handek and the Hospice, the miserable chalet of the Räterichsboden, where the ravine expands once more into

a basin-shaped hollow, probably once a lake bed, with a marshy bottom, affording scanty herbage for a few goats, with a dismal valley leading to the mountain Nägelis Grättli on the left. A little above this the path quits the Aar, which rises in the Aar-glacier, about 2 miles higher up on the rt., and ascending a glen, strewn with shattered rocks, reaches

The *Hospice of the Grimsel* (a large mountain Inn) was originally a conventual establishment, and after the Reformation was supported by the neighbouring communes, in order to shelter those who travel from necessity, and to afford a gratuitous aid to the poor. It is now daily occupied during the summer months by travellers for pleasure, sometimes to the number of 200 at once, who sit down at a table-d'hôte usually about 7 o'clock in the evening: the fare is good, the bedrooms very small, but the charges are not high. It is often so full in summer that those who arrive late are liable to fare ill, and it is often impossible to secure *single-bedded* rooms. It is a massy building of rough masonry, designed to resist a weight of snow, and with few windows to admit the cold. It contains 50 beds, in cells divided by thin partitions, and affords good fare, better far than might be expected in a spot more than 6000 ft. above the sea, and removed by many miles from any other human dwelling. The establishment includes a man cook, a washerwoman, and a cobbler, and they have clothes to lend to drenched travellers while their own are drying. It is occupied by the innkeeper who rents it from March to November. One servant passes the winter in the house, with a sufficient provision to last out the time of his banishment, and two dogs, to detect the approach of wanderers, for even in the depth of winter the hospice is resorted to by traders from Hasli and the Valais, who exchange the cheese of the one valley for the wine and spirits of the other. Its situation is as dreary as can be conceived, in a rocky hollow, about 700 ft. below the summit of the pass, sur-

[Switz.]

rounded by barren slopes and steep precipices. The rocks around are bare and broken, scarcely varied by patches of snow, which never melt even in summer, and by strips of grass and green moss, which shoot up between the crevices, and are eagerly browsed by a flock of 150 goats. A considerable supply of peat is dug from a bog within a few yards of the door. In the bottom of this naked basin, close to the house, is a black tarn, or lake. Although entirely covered with deep snow in winter, it is rarely frozen, as it is supplied from a warm spring. Beyond it lies a small pasturage, capable of supporting for a month or two the cows belonging to the Hospice, and the servants cross the lake twice a-day, in a boat, to milk them. It is a landscape worthy of Spitzbergen or Nuova Zembla. This wilderness is the haunt of the marmot, whose shrill whistle frequently breaks the solitude; and the chamois, become rare of late, still frequents the neighbouring glaciers; both animals contribute at times to replenish the larder of the Hospice.

On the 22nd March, 1838, the Hospice was overwhelmed and crushed by an avalanche, which broke through the roof and floor, and filled all the rooms but that occupied by the servant, who succeeded with difficulty in working his own way through the snow, along with his dog, and reached Meyringen in safety. The evening before, the man had heard a mysterious sound, known to the peasants of the Alps and believed by them to be the warning of some disaster: it appeared so like a human voice that the man supposed it might be some one in distress, and went out with his dog to search, but was stopped by the snow. The next morning the sound was again heard, and then came the crash of the falling avalanche. The Hospice has been rebuilt and enlarged since a fire caused, 1852, by an incendiary (the landlord, an old man 62 years of age, in order to obtain a renewal of his lease, which ran out 1853). His crime was discovered, owing to a change of wind, before the

building was destroyed, and the criminal tried, and sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment.

"In August, 1799, the Grimsel became the scene of one of the most remarkable skirmishes in the campaign. The Austrians were encamped upon the Grimsel with the view of preventing the French from penetrating into the Valley of the Rhone by means of that pass. They had possession of the whole declivity from the summit of the pass to the Hospice, and also of the platform on which the Hospice stands. Their force consisted of rather less than 1500 men. The French troops under General Gudin, consisting of about 3600 men, were posted in the Oberhasli valley in the neighbourhood of Guttanen. The Austrian commander, Colonel Strauch, naturally relied upon the strength of his position, which had not only the advantage of a great declivity, but of the numerous narrow fissures in the rocks, which might be defended by a few men, protected by the upright masses of granite, against a large army. The French General also considered the position to be impregnable to an attack in front, and was therefore placed in a situation of great anxiety by receiving positive orders from Massena, who had then the chief command of the French army in Switzerland, to force the pass of the Grimsel on the 14th of August. Fahner, the landlord of the Inn at Guttanen, then undertook for a reward to guide the French over a mountain called Nægeli's Grätli to the summit of the Grimsel at a higher level than the Austrian position.

"The next morning early Gudin confided about 400 men to the guidance of Fahner; and at the same time he sent a small detachment over and round the Sidelhorn, who were also to descend from the higher parts of that mountain upon the Grimsel, and there meet the party guided by Fahner over the mountain on the opposite side. Gudin himself advanced with the main body of his troops up the Oberhasli valley to the platform on

which the Hospice now stands, and attacked the Austrian position in front—with the characteristic impetuosity of French soldiers. The Austrian commander was convinced that the attack could not succeed in this direction, but drew down the greater part of his force from the summit of the Grimsel in order to repel it with effect, and some sharp fighting ensued. Suddenly the Austrians were alarmed by firing on the heights to their rear; and its continuance, together with the appearance of French soldiers in that direction, convinced them that an important attack was commenced in a quarter from which they least expected it. The appearance of the enemy in their rear, with numbers as unknown as the means by which they came there, induced the Austrians to waver; and the impetuous advance of Gudin produced a panic which ended in a disorderly flight up the Grimsel in the direction of Obergesteln, in the valley of the Rhone. On the summit of the Grimsel, however, they again met with the enemy; for by this time the troops despatched by Gudin over the Sidelhorn had nearly reached their destination, and had almost effected their junction with the party led by Fahner; so that the two ends of the formidable serpent were nearly brought together just as the flying Austrians had reached the top of the pass. The soldiers, finding themselves surrounded, are said to have beaten their sabres and muskets to pieces upon the granite rocks; and this tradition is countenanced by the fact that fragments of arms, evidently broken by violence, are still occasionally found at this very spot. The number of the killed is supposed not to have exceeded 150, of which the French composed not more than a fifth part. The wounded Austrians were necessarily left to their fate, the nature of the ground rendering it impossible for such of their companions as escaped to remove them, and the French troops passing directly over into the valley of the Rhone. The landlord at the Hospice found a decayed musket lying by a skeleton under a

rock, at some distance from the scene of the skirmish."

The source of the Aar lies in two enormous glaciers, the *Ober* and *Unter-Aar-Gletscher*, to the W. of the Hospice. The *Unter-Aar* glacier is the best worth visiting, and the lower extremity of the ice may be reached in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. from the Hospice. It is remarkable for the evenness of the surface of ice and the rareness of crevasses on its surface. It is about 14 m. long, and from 1 to 2 broad. At about 7 m. from its lower end the glacier divides into two branches. The rt. branch to the traveller ascending the glacier is the *Lauter Aar Glacier*; the l. branch, the *Finster Aar Glacier*. The two are separated by a steep rocky promontory called *Im Abschwung*, which forms the base of a huge ridge, whose other extremity immediately above Grindelwald is called the Mettenberg. The highest summit of this ridge seen by the traveller ascending the glacier is the formidable peak of the Schreckhorn. On the opposite or S. side of the *Finster Aar Glacier* is the still more imposing summit of the *Finster Aar Horn*, the highest of the Bernese Alps. Owing to its great dimensions, and the ease with which it may be traversed in most directions, the *Unter Aar Glacier* has long attracted those who wished to study thoroughly the singular phenomena of glaciers. In 1827 Hugi erected a rude hut on the glacier near the foot of the *Abschwung*. In 1840 the remains of this hut were found by Agassiz to have advanced about 4600 ft. In the following year M. Agassiz and a party of scientific friends established themselves in an equally rude shelter, on the medial moraine of the glacier, which they styled the *Hôtel des Neuchâtelois*. Here they continued during several successive seasons to carry on observations, which are recorded in the works of M. Agassiz. A more secure and convenient dwelling was finally provided by M. Dollfuss-Ausset of Mulhouse. It is a substantial hut on the l. bank of the glacier, called the *Pavilion*.

A *Panorama* of the Grimsel and the neighbouring peaks and glaciers may be seen from the top of the *Sidelhorn*, a mountain on the rt. of the path leading to Brieg and the Furca; its summit may be reached in 3 hours from the Hospice; and from the *Todten See* Hotel the trip is still shorter. It is 9500 ft. above the sea-level. The ascent is not very difficult, and the view magnificent. It is possible to descend from the summit of the *Sidelhorn* to the *Ober-Aar* glacier, and thence by very rough ground to the lower end of the *Unter-Aar* glacier.

Dill of Berne has engraved the *Panorama* of the *Sidelhorn*.

Grimsel to Hospenthal by the Furca.

About $7\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. = say 19 Eng. m. It is $6\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. walk, except when snow lies thick, when it may take 8. The bridle-path is by no means dangerous, and not very difficult, excepting the part between the summit of the Grimsel and the glacier of the Rhone called *Mayenwand*, which it is better to cross on foot than on horseback. Guide not necessary in fine weather, except to show the path in one or two places.

The summit of the pass of the Grimsel (7530 ft. above the sea, 700 ft. above the Hospice) is 2 m. from the Hospice; a steep path, marked by tall poles to guide the wayfarer, leads up to it. On the crest lies another small lake, called *Todten See*, or Lake of the Dead, from the corpses of French and Austrian soldiers, who were killed there in 1799 being thrown into it by way of burial. The sterility of the surrounding scene gives additional appropriateness to the name. An *Inn* has been built here (exactly 7000 ft.). There is a little-known pass from this point to the Gadmen-thal (Rte. 27 b). Along the crest of the mountain runs the boundary between Berne and the Valais, and just below it the path divides, that on the rt. going to Ober-Gestlen (Rte. 28).

The pedestrian without a guide should be careful which path he takes. The Obergestlen path leaves the lake on the l., the Furca path leaves it on the rt. If he follows the latter he will soon see the glacier of the Rhone below him as a guide.

From the gloomy little Lake of the Dead, skirting along the brink of a precipitous slope, it descends very rapidly. This portion of the way is the worst of the whole, being very steep, slippery, and muddy. However, it soon brings the traveller in sight of the Glacier, though at a considerable depth below him. On attaining the bottom of the Mayenwand, he will find a really good *hotel* (H. du Glacier du Rhone), kept by Seiler of Zermatt, a good centre between Furca, Grimsel, and Eggischhorn. [By keeping to the l. on the descent the pedestrian with a guide may avoid part of the Mayenwand, and, crossing the glacier, he will fall into the path to the Furca.]

About $\frac{1}{2}$ m. above the Inn the Rhone issues out to day at the foot of the

Rhone Glacier, one of the grandest in Switzerland, fit cradle for so mighty a stream. It fills the head of the valley from side to side, and appears piled up against the shoulder of the Gallenstock, whose tall peak overhangs it. The source of the Rhone, in a cavern of ice, is about 5400 ft. above the sea. If you pursue a track up the W. side, or rt. bank of the glacier, you come suddenly upon a very fine waterfall, rushing forth from the glacier, and dashing without a break into an icy cavern about 150 ft. below, sending forth clouds of freezing spray. This large body of water, after forming a passage for itself under the glacier, issues forth from the cavern at its foot.

The heights above the sea, in Eng. ft., of the Rhone at various points in its course are as follows:—At foot of glacier, 5750; at Brieg, 2302; at Sion, 1630; at Lake of Geneva, 1230; at Fort de l'Ecluse, 1066; at Seyssel, 802.

The path leading to the Furca, which will soon be made a *char-road*, ascends along the E. side of the vast basin, having the glacier on the l.

for a considerable distance. From this point the best view is obtained of this magnificent sea of ice, and a correct idea may be formed of its extent and thickness as the traveller passes within stone's throw of its yawning crevices. The path then leaves the glacier to mount upwards through a valley of green pastures to the summit of the pass, or *Fork*, between two mountain peaks, from which it receives its name. There are numerous tracks, but they all lead to the Furca. From this point, 8150 ft. above the sea, near the Cross which marks the boundary of the cantons of the Valais and of Uri, there is a beautiful view of the Bernese Chain, the Finster-Aar-Horn being pre-eminent among its peaks. The top of the Furca is never altogether free from snow: there is no plain or level surface on it. On the Furca is a good *Inn*, comfortably furnished, with 25 beds. [It serves as convenient quarters for those who would enjoy the view from the *Furca Horn* (1 hr. above the inn) at sunset or sunrise. A more difficult enterprise, fit only for practised mountaineers, is the ascent of the Galenstock (about 11,900 Eng. ft.), which has been lately achieved more than once by travellers starting from the Furca Inn.] The descent commences as soon as the crest is crossed, over the Sidli Alp, which is covered with pastures, but monotonous and uninteresting in its scenery, and destitute of trees. The traveller must pick his way, as he best may, among a multitude of deep holes cut by the feet of mules and cattle to

Realp (*Inn*: H. des Alpes). Here the Capuchin monks have a small chapel and hospice, and receive travellers. It is about 4 m. of level walking hence to

Hospenthal, on the St. Gothard (Rte. 34) (*Inns*: Meyerhof, a large hotel, carriages, saddle-horses, and guides to be found there; Golden Lion, civil landlord), or $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. farther to Andermatt (Rte. 34).

The road from the Rhone Glacier to Ober-Gesteln in Route 28.

ROUTE 27.

PASSES LEADING TO OR FROM THE GRIMSEL.

Besides the mule-paths leading over the Grimsel there are several passes in different directions, suited only to those who are in good condition for walking, and well accustomed to ice.

a.—STRAHLECK—GRINDELWALD TO GRIMSEL.

A difficult pass, suited only to skilful mountaineers. In fine weather it is free from danger. It is one of the most grand and striking in the Alps, and is now not uncommonly performed. The time required will depend altogether on the state of the snow, and may vary from 13 to 16 hrs., allowing for a short halt at the summit. It is perhaps most frequently taken from the Grindelwald side, but those who know it well recommend the opposite course; the ascent from the Grimsel is less considerable, and the views are on the whole finer. The hard day's work may be broken by sleeping in the highest châteaux at the foot of the Viescherhörner, 3 easy hrs. from Grindelwald; or at the Pavilion by the Aar Glacier, if the traveller attacks the pass from the Grimsel side.

The path, on leaving Grindelwald, ascends rapidly on the l. hand of the lower glacier, and is practicable for horses for about $\frac{3}{4}$ hour; it then becomes a footpath overhanging the glacier. After descending a ladder clamped against the face of a cliff

(Rte. 25c), the now shrunken glacier is reached and followed; or, if desired, a path on the cliff side may be pursued for some distance. The ascent of the upper part of the glacier is now commenced. Then some very steep rocks have to be climbed. Soon afterwards the glacier is again reached, and all path terminates. From this point the view of the Schreckhorn, which rises immediately over you on the left, is truly magnificent. Continuing along the glacier (which is here without crevasses, but difficult to walk on, on account of its steep slope from the left), and passing immediately below two lateral glaciers, which almost overhang you, a nearly precipitous wall of snow is reached, forming the end of the valley. At this point you turn to the left, and, ascending the glacier a few hundred feet, reach a shady ridge of rocks rising very steeply, and at right angles to the former route. This is ascended for about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr., when a platform of snow is reached, across which, after another short but steep ascent, the summit is gained in $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour.

The summit of the Strahleck is, indeed, the perfection of wild scenery. Vegetation there is none, save a few of the smallest gentianellas. The height is about 10,500 English ft., and it lies in the very centre of the highest group of the Öberland Alps, being, in fact, the ridge which connects the Schreckhorn with the range of the Finster Aarhorn.

The descent from the summit towards the Aar Glacier by the well-known ice-wall of the Strahleck forms the principal difficulty of this expedition. In certain states of the snow, nervousness or rashness on the part of any single traveller might endanger the lives of an entire party; but when the proper precautions are taken there is no real risk. Just below the steepest part a wide crevasse or *bergschrand* must be passed, but this is generally pretty well bridged over with snow; the slope soon becomes less steep, and before long the travellers may safely run or slide down to the *névé* of the Finster Aar Glacier (Rte. 26). From

the foot of the passage, the Abschwung, where Professor Agassiz's hut was situated, may be reached in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour: thence to the hospice of the Grimsel will take a good walker 3 hours, two of them on the ice

The demands of the guides at Grindelwald for this pass should not be submitted to. On one occasion they asked 180 fr. and took 30 fr.

This pass has been two or three times crossed by English ladies with the assistance of numerous guides and porters.

b.—GADMENTHAL TO GRIMSEL.

Though this is a very beautiful excursion, it has been but seldom traversed, and has not as yet received a name.

It is in no sense a short-cut, as the détour by the valley of Hasli may be made in much less time, but in fine weather it is an interesting excursion for practised mountaineers. From Mühlestalden, at the lower end of the valley of Gadmen (Arnold Kehrli, of Mühlethal, is a good guide), a narrow gorge opens to the S., down which flows the stream from the Trift glacier. The glacier is reached in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., and about $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. farther a chalet, called *Gräggi*, is seen on side of the glacier. A night's rest on clean hay may there be obtained, and it is the point from whence the *Steinhaus-horn* (10,303 ft.), the highest mountain immediately overlooking the valley of Hasli, may most easily be ascended. The view is said to be very fine. From *Gräggi* it is easy to reach Guttanen, by the ridge of the *Furtwang* and the *Steinhaus Alp*, but mountaineers will prefer to traverse the great snow wastes which lie between the ridge of the *Steinhaus-horn*, on the W., and the still higher range of the *Sustenhorn* and *Galenstock*, on the E. For nearly an hour from *Gräggi* the glacier presents no difficulty; it then rises steeply in shattered masses,

and it is necessary to climb some steep, but not very difficult, rocks. In another hour the upper plateau, a wide-spreading snow-field, is reached. Two hrs. of gradual ascent lead to the summit of the flattened ridge which separates the Trift from the Rhone glacier, about 10,000 Eng. ft. in height. From this point the view of the *Galenstock*, a pyramid of rock, probably inaccessible on this side, is very fine. The ridge to the l., between the *Galenstock* and *Sustenhorn*, overlooks the wild valley of *Göschenen*, a tributary of the *Reuss*. Time permitting, it would be worth a traveller's trouble to gain that ridge. In descending the uppermost part of the Rhone glacier it is advisable to keep to the l., and then cross the glacier diagonally. There are many concealed crevasses. The most direct course to the Grimsel leads over much rough ground by a small lake called "*Im Saas*;" but it is more easy to make a slight circuit by the *Todten See*. Time required about 12 hrs. With good guides a traveller might strike to the l. from the upper plateau of the Rhone glacier, along the slopes of the *Gälenstock*, and reach the *Furca Inn* at night.

c.—OBERAARJOCH—GRIMSEL TO THE EGGISCHHORN.

This is one of the most magnificent passes in Switzerland. It is a hard day's work, and the descent of the *Viescher glacier* is very difficult, but the grandeur of its scenery will well repay any traveller who may explore it in fine weather.

It is advisable to start before daylight from the Grimsel. As far as the foot of the *Unteraar glacier* the route is the same as that of the *Strahleck* pass: here it ascends to the chalets at the foot of the *Oberraar glacier*. This is almost as easily traversed as the lower glacier (27 a), but the ascent to the Col (which pre-

sents no difficulty worth mentioning) is rather more rapid. The summit of the pass is reached in about $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. The Viesch glacier is very much cut up by wide crevasses throughout nearly its entire length, but the worst part may be avoided by a circuit over the rocks on the rt. bank. After descending for about 2 hrs. from the Joch, the glacier becomes quite impracticable, and it is necessary to scramble down some steep and dripping rocks, which form, in fact, the lower slopes of the Viescherhörner. Beware of descending too low at the foot of the glacier; near the chalets of Stock, an ascent (of no difficulty) is required to reach the level of the hotel on the Eggischhorn (Rte. 28). This is far preferable to the long and fatiguing descent that is necessary to reach Viesch.

d.—GRIMSEL TO MEYRINGEN, OVER THE LAUTERAAR AND GAULI GLACIERS.

"We set out from the hospice of the Grimsel a little after 5 A.M. For some distance the route is the same as that of the Strahleck, but, instead of turning to the l. up the Finsteraar glacier, it inclines to the rt. along the Lauteraar to near its head, where the ridge of the Lauteraarsattel runs across from the Schreckhorn to the mountain marked in Keller's map Berglistock, but called by Anderegg, Schneehorn. Here we turned to our rt. and commenced the ascent of the steep ridge of rock which, running from the last-named mountain, forms the boundary between the Lauteraar and Gauli glaciers. After having reached about half its height, we turned again to our rt. for some distance, parallel to the Lauteraar glacier, till we came to where the passage of the ridge is to be made. The ascent is up rock and loose shingle to the summit, which is very narrow. On the northern side the descent is down an extremely steep slope of hard frozen snow, which occupied nearly 1 h. be-

fore we reached the Gauli glacier, down which we slid, and before 2 o'clock were off the ice. The route then is down the Urbach Thal, and in parts is very steep. At Hof we struck in upon the road to Meyringen, and reached that town a little after 6 o'clock, having been 13 hrs., including stoppages, in coming by this pass from the Grimsel; $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. were upon the ice."—*R. F.*

[From the head of the Lauteraar glacier it is possible to reach Rosenlani, instead of descending to Meyringen. An account of the passage is given in Desor's 'Excursions et Séjours dans les Alpes.' It appears to be a very difficult expedition, and should be undertaken only in the finest weather, and with experienced guides.]

ROUTE 28.

GRIMSEL TO BRIEG, BY OBERGESTELN —THE EGGISCHHORN.

On reaching the summit of the Grimsel Pass (Rte. 26) the path leads to the rt., whilst the Rhone Glacier and Furca path goes to the l. It is a walk of $2\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. from the Grimsel to Ober-Gesteln; but the new char-road makes a détour by the glacier and source of the Rhone (Rte. 26). Below the glacier, the Rhone plunges through a magnificent gorge before reaching Oberwald.

In all the villages along the road horses and chars may be had.

Oberwald.—The descent of the Upper Valais from Oberwald to Brieg, a dis-

tance of 8 hrs. (about 27 m.), is tame and uninteresting for the first part of the way, below which, especially about Viesch, its scenery is singularly beautiful. The peak of the Weisshorn is a noble object as far as Viesch, and, though 40 m. off, seems to block up the valley. Looking up, the Gallenstock appears in view with like grandeur. The road runs along the rt. bank of the Rhone. [From Oberwald a path diverges over the col of the Gerenhorn to the Nüfenen.]

1 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Ober-Gestelen* (Fr., Haut Châtilon) (*Inn*, Cheval Blanc; clean and civil), the highest village but one (Oberwald being the highest) in the Upper Valais, 4360 ft. above the sea-level. It is situated on the rt. bank of the Rhone, about 8 m. below its source in the glacier. It is the dépôt for the cheese transported out of canton Berne into Italy, and is a place of some traffic, as it lies at the junction of the 4 bridle-roads over the Grimsel, Furca, Nüfenen, and Gries (Rte. 62).

In 1720, 84 men were killed here by an avalanche, and lie buried in one grave in the churchyard.

1 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Ulrichen*. [Opposite this the valley of Eginen opens out—up it runs the path leading over the Gries and the Nüfenen (Rte. 63).] The Upper Valais (Ober-Wallis) is very populous, and numerous unimportant villages are passed in rapid succession. One of the largest is

2 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Münster*, containing about 400 Inhab., and a good *Inn*, La Croix d'Or, in full view of the peak of the Weisshorn, a neighbour of Monte Rosa. The landlord's nephew, Antonio Guntren, is a trustworthy guide, well acquainted with the Gries pass. 18 fr. for horse and carriage to Brieg; 20 fr. to Visp. From Münster the ascent of the Löffelhorn (10,268 Eng. ft.) may be made in about 4 hrs. The view of the Finsteraar Horn is said to be singularly fine, but in other respects the position is not equal to that of the Äggischhorn. The natives of the Upper Valais are a distinct and apparently superior race to those of the Lower. The language is German.

The Romans never penetrated into the higher part of the Rhone valley.

1 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Rechingen*, a handsome ch.

4 m. *Niederwald* (*Inn*), fountain of excellent water by roadside.

4 m. *Viesch* (a very fair country *Inn*, du Glacier) lies at the entrance of a side valley, blocked up at its upper extremity by the Viesch glacier, above which rise the peaks called Viescher-Hörner. There exists a tradition that a path once led up this valley to Grindelwald: it is now entirely stopped by the glacier, and this circumstance is supposed to prove a great increase of the mass of ice.

[*The Äggischhorn*.—Scarcely known to travellers before 1854, this has become one of the head-quarters of members of the Alpine Club, and other lovers of high Alpine scenery. It owes this rapid rise in part to its admirable position, and partly to the excellent accommodation found at the new *Inn*, first opened in 1856, which certainly affords more of comfort and convenience than are to be obtained elsewhere at an equal height and under similar natural difficulties. The vast snow-fields which cover the southern flanks of the higher Bernese Alps send down two great glaciers towards the valley of the Rhone. The lesser of these, the Viesch glacier, has been already referred to (Rte. 27 c). The greater of them, the *Aletsch glacier*—the most considerable ice-river in the Alps, or perhaps in the world—originates in the vast basin which is enclosed by the peaks of the Aletschhorn, the Jungfrau, the Mönch, the Trugberg, and the Walliser Viescherhörner. Its length, from the Mönch Sattel to the source of the Massa at its base, is fully 20 m., with a breadth varying from 1 to nearly 4 m.; and by its extent and the uniformity of its slope, it far better deserves the name of a *Mer de Glace*, or

Eis Meer, than any other glacier in the Alps.

From the Mönch Sattel, between the Mönch and the Jungfrau, the main stream of the glacier preserves for 12 or 13 m. a nearly straight course, a little E. of S., until it abuts against a steep pyramidal mountain, which lies exactly in the course of the ice-stream. By this it is deflected to the rt., or S.W.; its slope becomes somewhat more rapid, and its bed narrower, till it finally disappears from sight in a deep ravine, from whence issues the torrent of the Massa. The mountain which thus turns aside the flow of the Aletsch glacier is the Äggischhorn. Its summit (9656 Eng. ft.) commands a full view of the entire course of the glacier, and of the grand range of peaks which surround it, in itself an unsurpassed combination of grand natural objects; but besides these the panorama which it presents in clear weather includes nearly or quite all the highest summits of the Alps. Taken in the order in which they present themselves, we have Mont Blanc, with his attendant aiguilles; the Grand Combin, or Graffeneire; the Weisshorn, Matterhorn, Dom, Monte Rosa, Laquinhorn, Weissmies, Monte Leone; the range extending from thence to the St. Gothard; the distant Tödi, seen beyond the Furka pass; the Galenstock, Oberaarhorn, and Finsteraarhorn, succeeded by the group already enumerated. There is probably no other spot at all easy of access from which all these summits are visible at the same moment. Among other objects of interest the Viesch glacier, which is rather an ice-cataract than an ice-river (Rte. 27 c), should not be overlooked. It presents a striking contrast with the tranquil and scarcely ruffled flow of the great Aletsch glacier.

Looking downwards some 2000 ft. below the summit, another remarkable and almost unique object is seen, which, however, requires a nearer visit in order to be fully appreciated. Immediately N. of the Äggischhorn the ridge separating the Aletsch and

Viesch glaciers is depressed into a flat plateau, 2 or 3 m. in length, and nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. wide. On one side the Aletsch glacier rises above the level of the plateau in steep cliffs of ice, forming a barrier which prevents the outflow of water on that side. Hence the waters which accumulate in summer, from the drainage of the surrounding mountains, form a small lake called the *Märjelen See*, upon whose ice-cold surface the blocks of ice that fall away from the cliffs float as miniature icebergs. The ice-cliffs rise about 50 ft. above the water, and are grounded in 30 ft. below water. In order to prevent the lake from unduly encroaching upon the adjacent pastures a channel has been dug, by which the surplus waters escape in the opposite direction, and join the torrent from the Viesch glacier. From time to time the onward movement of the Aletsch glacier opens some sub-glacial channel, by which a great part of the waters escape beneath the ice, leaving a whole fleet of icebergs stranded on the shores of the lake.

Hotel. On the S.E. slope of the Äggischhorn (at about 7000 ft.). M. Wellig, an enterprising native of the Valais, has opened an hotel, which, considering the difficulties that have had to be overcome to secure the most ordinary supplies, must be pronounced excellent. The host is extremely obliging and attentive, and has a fair knowledge of cookery, and the charges are reasonable. Some good wine is kept in the cellar. About 40 beds are made up; and as the house is sometimes quite full, a numerous party should write beforehand to secure rooms.

There are 4 ways of reaching the Äggischhorn.—1, from Viesch, 2 hrs.; 2, from Lax, 2½ hrs.; 3, from Mörrill, by the Rieder Alp, 5½ hrs.; 4, from the Bel Alp, 4½ hrs. The first 3 can be made on horseback the whole way, but the easiest is from Viesch. A good horse-track has now been constructed as far as the hotel. For nearly an hour the path mounts by zigzags through a pine-forest, whose shade affords protection from the

sometimes oppressive heat of the sun. The track is intersected by slides, which serve for the small sledges, in which cheeses, hay, &c., are conveyed from the upper pastures to the village of Viesch. Above the forest the path mounts by gentle slopes over pastures. The views are not very striking, but a little to the l. of the path there is a beautiful view of the grand ranges which circle round Saas and Zermatt, the most conspicuous and beautiful object being the exquisitely-pointed pyramid of the Dom, the highest summit of the Saas Grat (Rte. 122). The path winds round the eastern slopes of the Äggischhorn, and in 2 hrs. from Viesch the traveller reaches the hotel.

Many excursions may be made from the Äggischhorn.

a. The first object of attraction is, of course, the view from the summit of the mountain. $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. easy walk. This should be seen not once only, but several times, in order to enjoy it under different conditions of colouring and illumination. The path to the summit has been greatly improved by the care of M. Wellig, but the upper part is steep and slippery, and the top, formed of huge shattered blocks, with rifts between, affords but awkward footing. Unpractised mountaineers should take a guide, especially after fresh snow, and not disdain his proffered hand, as slight but disagreeable accidents often occur.

b. The next object of attraction is the Märjelen See, 2 hrs. easy walk, a mule-path is in progress, already described. A boat is to be put upon its waters. This excursion is generally combined with a visit to the Aletsch glacier, which is easy of access, and in great part free from dangerous crevasses. It is only after walking some miles upon its surface that a true impression can be formed of the vast extent of this sea of ice.

c. A rather longer excursion may be made by travellers bound for Brieg, by reaching the Aletsch gla-

cier, either from the Märjelen See, or descending to it from the summit of the mountain (a steep slope, requiring caution); then following the downward slope of the glacier for 3 or 4 m., till opposite to a slight depression in the ridge on its l. bank. This is reached without difficulty, and from thence the descent to Möril, on the high road from Viesch to Brieg, by grassy slopes, steep, but not difficult, and by occasional rocks, is a very agreeable walk. There is a *châlet* inn on the *Rieder Alp*, where refreshments may be had on the way down.

d. A much more considerable expedition is to reach the Mönch Sattel, or depression separating the Mönch from the Jungfrau. Ropes, veils, and dark spectacles should be taken, but there is no serious difficulty to be encountered. The distance is considerable, and the walk to and fro, especially if there be much fresh snow, is a fatiguing one. The contrast afforded by the view from the summit of the Col, looking over the Bernese Oberland and the plain of Switzerland, after having been so long confined to the Polar scenery of the upper part of the glacier, is said to be very striking. It appears that there is no possibility of descending the precipices which on the farther side face the Wengern Alp, but 2 different passages in this direction, from the Aletsch glacier to the Bernese Oberland, have been accomplished by English travellers. The first of these was effected in August, 1858, by the Rev. C. Hudson, Mr. Birkbeck, and Mr. Joad, with 2 excellent guides, Melchior Anderegg and Victor Tairraz, of Chamouni. They ascended the Aletsch glacier nearly to the base of the Mönch, and, following the branch which separates the Mönch from the Trugberg, passed the night on the snow, under a tent, at a height of about 11,500 ft. above the sea. From this point they soon reached on the following morning the summit of the ridge connecting the Mönch with the range called the Viescher Grat. From thence the descent to the lower

glacier of Grindelwald is a work of considerable difficulty and some danger. The difficulties would probably be less serious if the pass were made from the Grindelwald side, but it cannot be recommended to ordinary travellers. The second, and still more difficult passage, was accomplished in 1859, by the Rev. Leslie Stephen and Mr. Mathews, with Ulrich Lauener and 2 Chamouni guides. They ascended from the Wengern Alp, between the Eiger and the Mönch, and reached the summit of the ridge connecting those peaks, after 580 steps had been cut in one ice-slope by the first-named guide. They were forced to pass the night on the upper Aletsch glacier, and reached the hotel on the Äggischhorn the next day.

The Äggischhorn has been the starting-point from whence the 3 highest summits of the Oberland group have been attained. The Finsteraarhorn (14,039 Eng. ft.) was first ascended in 1841, by Herr Solger, of Basle, with a guide named Jaun, of Meyringen. The next successful ascent, of which an account is given in 'Peaks, Passes, and Glaciers,' was effected in 1857, by the Rev. J. F. Hardy, Messrs. Kennedy, Ellis, St. John Mathews, and W. Mathews, all of the University of Cambridge, with 5 guides. Several successful ascents have been since made. The Aletschhorn was for the first time ascended by Mr. F. F. Tuckett, with (3?) guides, in 1859. Only of late it has been known that this peak, which is not visible from the Bernese Oberland, being wholly situated in the Valais, is the 2nd in height of the Alps of Central Switzerland (13,803 Eng. ft.). The history of the successful attempts to reach the summit of the Jungfrau has been already referred to (Rte. 25 c).

or the Baths of Leuk, may take a route over the Aletsch and Lötsch glaciers, a day's journey over ice and snow, but not presenting any serious difficulty (Rte. 60).

Ordinary travellers will prefer to return to the high road at Viesch.] And thence proceed to

1½ m. *Laax* (Croix Blanche, good).

5 m. *Mörill* (Inn: Venals).

The stream of the Massa, issuing from the Aletsch Glacier, here joins the Rhone. The volume of its waters is greater than that of any other glacier stream in the Alps.

Bel Alp. A good and very popular Inn has been built on the Bel Alp (formerly called the Lusgen Alp), one of the S. spurs of the Aletschhorn, and but a short distance above the Aletsch Glacier. There is a pleasant walk to it, often traversed by ladies in 4½ hrs. (of which ½ hr. is across the Aletsch Glacier), from the Äggischhorn Hotel. It passes by the Châlet Inn on the Rieder Alp. The Bel Alp is also reached in 3½ hrs. from Brieg by a bridle-path ascending from Naters. Excursion from the Bel Alp to the Sparrehorn (otherwise the Belhorn), 3 hrs. up: horses go two-thirds of the way. View magnificent, like that from the Äggischhorn.

4 m. *Naters*, a village of 600 Inhab., lies in a beautiful situation and in a milder climate, where the chestnut begins to flourish. Above it rises the ruined castle of Auf der Flüh, or Supersax.

A wooden bridge leads across the Rhone to the great high road at

1 m. *Brieg* (Inn, Post), at the foot of the Simplon (Rte. 59).

[Travellers who have already seen the Pass of the Simplon may reach Domo d'Ossola by the Binnen Thal and Crodo, in the Val Antigorio (Rte. 61). Those proceeding to Sion,

ROUTE 31.

STANZ TO ENGELBERG. ENGELBERG TO ALTORF, BY THE SURENEN PASS. THE TITLIS.

A walk of $12\frac{1}{2}$ to 13 hrs. The best plan is to sleep at Engelberg and cross the pass next day.

There is a good char-road from Stanz (Rte. 19) to Engelberg ($4\frac{1}{2}$ hours' walk; car, 1 horse, 12 fr.; ditto 2, 20 fr.); thence to Altorf, across the pass, a horse-path.

The road from Stanz to Engelberg follows the course of the Aa upwards, gradually ascending, and passing Wolfenschiess with its ruined castle, and Grafenort, where there is a small inn. Beyond this the valley contracts. The road is carried up a steep ascent nearly 6 m. long, traversing thick woods, amidst scenery of the highest sublimity. In the midst of it, in the depth of the valley, lie the village and *Abbey of Engelberg*—(Inns: Hotel and Pension, Müller, good, clean, and moderate, whey cure; Engel)—3220 ft. above the sea. It is hemmed in on all sides by lofty mountains topped with snow, and based by precipices from which, in winter time and in spring, numerous avalanches are precipitated. At their base, upon a verdant slope, contrasting agreeably with rock and snow, the Benedictine Abbey rises conspicuous among the ordinary habitations of the village. It was founded in 1120, and received from Pope Calixtus II. the name of *Mons Angelorum*, from a tradition that the site of the building was fixed by angels—

"Whose authentic lay,
Sung from that heavenly ground, in middle air,
Made known the spot where Piety should raise
A holy structure to th'Almighty's praise."

Wordsworth.

Having been three times destroyed by fire, the existing edifice is not older than the middle of the last century. "The architecture is plain and unimpressive, but the situation is worthy of

the honours which the imagination of the mountaineers has conferred upon it." The convent is independent of any bishop or sovereign but the Pope himself, or his legate: its revenues, once more considerable, were seriously diminished by the French, but it still possesses valuable alpine pastures, and the cheeses produced on them are stored in an adjacent warehouse and cellars. It contains, at present, only 19 brothers: it has a large Church and a Library of some value, rich in Swiss early printed books and illuminated MSS.; the roof of the apartment in which it is placed has been cracked by an earthquake. Travelers are received and entertained in the convent—those of the poorer classes gratuitously.

The *Titlis*, the chief of the mountains which overhang this romantic solitude, rises on the S. of the convent to a height of 7000 ft. above the valley, and 10,690 ft. above the sea-level. Its principal peak is frequently ascended, but more easily from the inn in the Engstlen-Thal (Rte. 33) than from Engelberg. The first hour from Engelberg can be accomplished on horses, after which there is a sharp ascent for an hour through woods; the path then continues over pastures which gradually become rocks mixed with patches of snow, and the last hour is over a snowy ridge. The ascent occupies 6 or 7 hours. It is covered with a cap of snow or *névé*, from which numerous avalanches fall in spring.

The view is superb. The Sustenhorn, Galenstock, Thierberge, Finsteraarhorn, Schreckhörner, and all the mountains of the Oberland are seen to perfection. The position of the mountain is so favourable that the eye wanders over an almost countless number of peaks and glaciers.

The *Passes of the Storegg* and of the *Jauchli* (Rte. 19) lead by the Melchthal to Surenen in 5 and 6 hrs. respectively.

The *Pass of the Joch* (see Rte. 33) leads from Engelberg to Meyringen in 10 hrs.

From Engelberg to Altorf, by the Pass of the *Surenen*, is a walk of 8 hrs. When there is fresh snow on the pass 9 or 10 hrs. should be allowed. When ladies are of the party it is better taken from Engelberg than from Altorf, as it is difficult to hire good mountain horses at the latter place. The footpath reaches, after about 3m., the dairy belonging to the convent, called *Herrenreuti*, where good cheese is made: 50 cows are attached to it: the pastures are refreshed by more than 20 springs rising upon them. From the steep sides of the *Hahnenberg*, on the N.E., a beautiful waterfall bursts forth, called *Dätschbach*. The path now winds round the base of a projecting mountain, beyond which the valley makes a bend in a N.E. direction, and, following the course of the *Aa* torrent for about 6 m., crosses it, and then turns nearly due E. The *Stierenbach*, the principal feeder of the *Aa*, is now seen descending in a pretty cascade into the deep abyss. Half an hour's walk below the summit stand a few *châlets*, and beyond them the traveller has generally to traverse patches of snow, to the summit of the pass, or *Surenen Eck*, a narrow ridge 7548 ft. above the sea, not more than 5 ft. wide, between the *Blakenstock* on the l. and the *Geissberg* on the rt. During the greater part of the ascent the *Titlis* shines forth an object of the greatest magnificence, and a long line of peaks and glaciers extends from it uninterruptedly to the *Surenen*. Another view now opens out on the opposite side into the valley of *Schächen*, bounded in the extreme distance by the snowy top of the *Glärnisch* in canton *Glarus*. On the side of the *Surenen*, lying within the limits of canton *Uri*, the surface of snow to be crossed is often greater, and the descent is steeper. Traversing the snow, and a desolate tract covered with broken rocks beyond, the *châlets* of *Waldnacht* are passed; and then, by the gorge of *Boghy*, the path is conducted into the valley of the *Reuss*, forking off on the rt. to *Erstfeld*, for those who wish to ascend the *St.*

Gothard—and on the l. to *Attinghausen*, for those who are bound to *Altorf*.

In 1799 a division of the French army, under *Lecourbe*, crossed this pass with cannon to attack the *Austrians* in the valley of the *Reuss*, but were soon driven back the same way by the impetuous descent of *Suwarow* from the *St. Gothard*.

Altorf (Rte. 34).

ROUTE 32.

PASS OF THE SUSTEN, FROM MEYRINGEN OR REICHENBACH TO WASEN.

12½ hrs. 11 hrs.' fast walking.

In 1811, when the *Valais* was added by *Napoleon* to the French empire, a char-road was constructed from *Meyringen* to *Stein*, and on the side of canton *Uri* from *Wasen* to *Ferningen*, to enable the inhabitants of canton *Berne* to convey their produce into *Italy* through the *Swiss* territory. It has fallen out of repair in many places, and can only be regarded as a *bridle-path*. It is a fine pass; the *Gadmenthal* being very grand, in parts somewhat like the *Trosachs*, on a grander scale. Charge for a horse 30 fr., for a guide 10 fr.; but, as the pass is much frequented, no guide is required in clear weather. It enables a stout pedestrian to proceed in one long day from *Meyringen* to *Wasen*, on the *St. Gothard*, but the distance is almost too much, and it is usual to stop for the night at *Stein*. The word *Sust* means toll or custom-house, whence the name.

The route of the *Grimsel* is followed from *Meyringen* as far as *Im Hof* (Rte. 26), where, quitting the side of the *Aar*, the path follows the course of the *Gadmen*, ascending the valley called, at its lower extremity, *Muhlthal*, and higher up *Nesselthal*. Here the narrow *Triftthal* opens from the *S.*, with fine glimpses of the *Triften*.

stock and gletscher, up which lies a glacier pass to the Grimsel (Rte. 27 b). Beyond this the valley is named Gadmenthal.

The road passes through a fine grove of venerable sycamores, above which the Titlis rises superbly, before you reach in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

Gadmen. (Inn: Bear, shaded by sycamores, clean and tolerable.) This village of 550 Inhab. is 3750 ft. above the sea-level, and is composed of 3 distinct groups of houses, Eck, Ambuhl, and Obermatt, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile higher up. The char-road was not carried further than the châteaux of Steinen, and a portion of it was destroyed a few years ago by the sudden advance of the glacier of Steinen, which 30 years ago was more than a mile distant from it, descending from a valley on the S. The appearance of the glacier is remarkable, as it assumes a fan shape at its termination. At the foot of the Steinen glacier is a clean little Inn. 7 hrs. are required from Meyringen to Stein, $5\frac{1}{2}$ descending to Meyringen. From hence the ascent of the Sustenhorn may be effected in 6 hrs. The height is 11,560 Eng. ft. From the inn at Stein a steep ascent of $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour brings the traveller to

The top of the Susten Pass, 7446 ft. above the level of the Mediterranean. The view is very fine; the serrated ridges, and the many pointed peaks of the mountains bounding the Mayenthal, through which the descent lies, especially arrest the attention. There is always some snow on the E. declivity of the pass. The first châteaux are met with on the Hundsalp. The stream of the Mayen-Reuss, issuing out of the Susten glacier (rt.), under the Susten Horn, is crossed several times, until at the Hauserbrücke, a considerable distance below Fernigen, the unfinished char-road again commences. Near Fernigen the deeply engulfed and foaming Gurezmittlerbach is crossed. Lower down is the village of Mayen, or Meyen, 3 hrs. descending from the top of the pass, where there is an Inn, not so good as those at Gadmen or Stein. Most of the houses in this valley are protected

from the descending avalanches by a stone dyke, or well-propped palisade of wood raised on the hill-side behind them, to turn away the falling snow from their roofs. Near the junction of the valleys of the Mayen and the Reuss are shattered remains of an hexagonal redoubt (schanze), which was fortified by the Austrians in 1799, and stormed and taken from them by the French under Loison, who forced the enemy back up the vale of the Reuss, and, after five assaults, made himself master of Wasen, an important point. A very steep and rough road leads in one hour from Mayen into the village of

Wasen, on the St. Gothard (Rte. 34). Hours' fast walking from Wasen: 5 to the Pass; $\frac{3}{4}$ to Stein; 2 to Gadmen; 2 to Im Hof; 1 to Meyringen = total, $10\frac{3}{4}$ hours.

ROUTE 33.

THE JOCH PASS, FROM MEYRINGEN TO ENGELBERG.

Distance about 10 hrs. This pass, though practicable for horses, and a good deal used, is high and steep. It is a fine pass, with considerable variety of scenery, commanding beautiful views of the Titlis. As far as Im Hof it is the same as Rte. 26.

That village is reached in $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr. from Meyringen. The road of the Susten is followed for nearly an hour to the junction of the torrent from the Gentel Thal with the Gadmenbach. A rapid ascent follows, till the pastures at the lower extremity of the Gentel Thal are reached, in which is a pure spring, very grateful after the hot ascent from Wyler. From this point the path continues on the rt. bank of the stream on a very gradual rise for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour, and then

crossing reaches the lower pastures of the *Engstlen Alp*. Another ascent of $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. by a rough path, partly through pine forest, leads to *Engstlen Alp Inn* (about 6100 ft.), capital country inn; civil and intelligent landlord, often overflowing with guests. The position is a very fine one, and the views of the adjoining range of the Titlis, and of the Oberland Alps, magnificent. Many excursions may be made from hence, but the most interesting is the ascent of the Titlis. (See Rte. 31.) From this convenient starting-point it is not very fatiguing, and has been accomplished by English ladies. A practised mountaineer will easily reach the summit in 5 hrs. and return in $3\frac{1}{2}$, but it is well to allow ample time to enjoy the view from the top. The landlord will find good and cheap guides. Near to the Inn is a remarkable intermittent *Spring*, called *Wunderbrunnen*. It flows from spring to autumn, always running from 8 A.M. to about 4 P.M., when it ceases.

[An easy and beautiful pass called the *Sättli* (Little Saddle) leads hence in 4 hrs. to Gadmen ($\frac{1}{2}$ hr. extra should be allowed by those coming from Gadmen). The path skirts the rocks at the extremity of the Engstlen See, and thence ascends gradually to the summit ($1\frac{3}{4}$ hr.); the view hence over the Thierberge, Triftenhorn, Sustenhorn, and the glaciers is very fine. On the Gadmen side the descent is so steep, that mules would be unable to pass, but they could go the whole of the reverse way, i.e. from Gadmen to the Engstlen Alp. The downward path takes a direction to the l. and leads to a shepherd's hut ($\frac{1}{2}$ hr.). Here 2 roads diverge, one to the l. leads to Obermatt and Stein (Rte. 32), the other, to the rt., to Gadmen and Im Hof. The remainder of the descent is rather less steep and is very picturesque, passing through fir-woods and over open fields commanding beautiful views of the valley, &c.]

Engelberg,—the horse-path, scarcely marked, leading to the l. of the Trüb See; the other and shorter one, only practicable on foot, continuing along a ridge in the direction of Engelberg for a short distance, and then descending abruptly on the rt. to a plain, on which, at $\frac{1}{2}$ m. on the left, is situated the Trüb See, fed by glaciers descending from the Ochsenberg on the rt. It is necessary to bear away to the rt.-hand extremity of this plain, where there is a gap, from which a very rough and precipitous path, called the Pfaffenwand, descends for 20 minutes over grass, and afterwards débris, to the pastures, crossing which it enters the forest for $\frac{1}{4}$ hour, and shortly reaches

Engelberg (Rte. 31).

ROUTE 34.

THE PASS OF ST. GOTHARD, FROM FLÜELEN, ON THE LAKE OF LUCERNE, TO BELLINZONA.

$8\frac{1}{2}$ posts = 76 miles.

Distances from Flüelen to Bellinzona:—

	Swiss posts.	Eng. m.
Flüelen to Amsteg . . .	$1\frac{1}{8}$	10
Amsteg to Andermatt . .	$1\frac{5}{8}$	$14\frac{1}{2}$
Andermatt to St. Gothard		
Pass	$1\frac{1}{4}$	11
St. Gothard Pass to Airolo	$\frac{7}{8}$	8
Airolo to Faido	$1\frac{1}{8}$	10
Faido to Bodio	1	9
Bodio to Bellinzona . .	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$13\frac{1}{2}$
	$8\frac{1}{2}$	76

These are the true distances: somewhat more is charged by the postmasters.

Steamers 4 times a day from Lucerne, reaching Flüelen, and thence diligences (places in which must be secured in Lucerne or on board the steamer) start 2 or 3 times a day for Bellinzona in 15 hrs., Milan in 25.

There are two paths down to

By the diligence some of the finest portions of the route are passed in the dark. From the coupé, which contains 3 places, something of the scenery may be seen; from the corner places in the interior, a very little; from the middle places, nothing whatever. A single traveller may sometimes induce the *conducteur* to give him his place outside. The road is very dusty, so that this is not an unmixed advantage. There is no *banquette*.

The innkeepers on both sides of the pass undertake to forward travellers in post carriages, and with post horses, for a fixed moderate charge. From Flüelen or Altorf the price of a carriage and 2 post-horses to Hospenthal is 30 fr., to Airolo 60, to Faido 75, to Bellinzona 100, to Magadino 115, to Lugano 125, and to Como 150 fr., not including the *pour-boire* of 2 fr. to the postilion at each stage, or the extra horses for crossing the mountain. These extras will amount to about 25 fr. more for the entire journey. It will save trouble to fix the entire amount before starting, and obtain a written agreement from the innkeeper to be shown at each stage. The service is well appointed. *Lohnkutschers* or *vetturini* abound at Flüelen, and some of them are generally on board the steamers looking out for custom. They perform the whole journey to Como for about 250 fr., including all charges, in 3 days, reaching Como on the 3rd, in time for the last rly. train for Milan. It is well to have this last point secured in a written agreement, which should also stipulate that the driver is to stop at the inns which the traveller may select. These carriages are more comfortable than those furnished by the postmasters, and will accommodate 6 persons.

Pedestrians should drive as far as Amsteg, where the ascent properly begins.

On this pass many rare minerals are found, and may be purchased better than in any other part of Switzerland.

most frequented passage over the Alps, as it offered the most direct and practicable line of communication between Basle and Zürich, from Northern Switzerland and W. Germany, to Lombardy, and the important cities of Milan and Genoa. Not less than 16,000 travellers and 9000 horses crossed it annually on an average, down to the commencement of the present century; but being only a bridle-path, it was almost entirely abandoned after the construction of the carriage-roads over the Simplon and Bernardino. Deprived of the traffic across it, the inhabitants of the villages traversed by the road, chiefly innkeepers and muleteers, were reduced to ruin, and the revenues of the canton, which before drew 20,000 florins annually from the tolls upon it, were seriously diminished. The cantons of Uri and Tessin, through which this road runs, at length became sufficiently alive to their own interests to perceive the necessity of converting it into a carriage-road, and thus rendering it fit to compete with the rival routes as a channel of communication and of transport for merchandise. In consequence, in 1820 the work was begun, and in 1832 finally completed and opened. The expenses were defrayed by a joint-stock company, formed in Uri and the neighbouring cantons. The construction of the road was intrusted to an engineer of Altorf, named Müller.

The poverty-stricken canton of Uri had scraped together, with great difficulty, funds sufficient to execute her portion of the undertaking, but a storm, such as had not been known in the memory of man, bursting on the summit of the pass, in August, 1834, in the course of a few hours swept away nearly one-third of the road, together with bridges and terraces without number, which had been constructed with so much labour, cost, and difficulty. A similar tempest in 1839 effected nearly equal destruction. Considering the previous drain upon the resources of the canton, it is surprising how soon the mischief was repaired.

This was anciently perhaps the

At present the road is excellent, not inferior in its construction to any other of the great Alpine highways. Its points of chief interest are the Devil's Bridge and the Italian scenery of rugged mountain and rich valleys.

The passage is usually free from snow for 4 or 5 months of the year; and in the depth of winter carriages are safely transported across on open sledges, except immediately after a snow-storm, when the road is sometimes blocked up for a week. In 1860, 41,000 fr. were spent in keeping the road clear of snow. It is still one of the best routes for Italy.

The canton of Uri and the valley of the Reuss possess an historical celebrity, as the theatre of the memorable campaign of 1799, when the armies of the three nations of France, Austria, and Russia, dispossessing each other in turns, marched, fought, and manœuvred, on heights whence the snow never disappears, and previously deemed accessible only to goatherds and hunters. In the month of June, in the above-named year, the Austrians, aided by the natives of Uri, had expelled the French from the valley. Satisfied with the possession of it, they passed nearly 2 months in entire inactivity, when, by a combined movement, planned by Massena, they were attacked at all points by French corps, poured in upon them from the lake of Lucerne, which was crossed by a flotilla of boats, and from every western passage leading over the Alps and into the valley of the Reuss. Lecourbe crossed the Surenen, Loison the Susten, and Gudin, with a large force, fought his way over the Grimsel and Furca, threatening the Austrians in front, in flank, and in the rear. In an engagement which took place on the 14th of August, and which lasted 5 hours, they were driven step by step up the valley, as far as Andermatt. On the two following days the French pursued them out of the valley of the Reuss into the Grisons by the Oberalp, where a bloody encounter took place. A little more than a month after this, intelligence was brought

to Lecourbe, the French commander, that another large army had appeared at the S. foot of the St. Gothard. While still at a loss to imagine to what European power it might belong, fresh tidings announced that it was the veteran Suwarrow, who, at the head of a Russian army of 18,000 foot and 5000 Cossack horse, had broken up from his encampment in the plains of Lombardy, and now began to force the passage of the St. Gothard. The French retired slowly but steadily before him as far as the lake of Lucerne, where Lecourbe, after removing all the boats from Flüelen, entrenched himself in a strong position at Seedorf, on the l. bank of the Reuss. Suwarrow, whose object was to unite himself with the Russian army before Zürich, of the defeat of which by Massena he had not yet heard, here found himself without the means of transporting his army, threatened on all sides by enemies. He took little time to consider, but immediately planned and executed his wonderful and almost incredible retreat over the Kinzig Kulm and into the valley of Muotta; and though constantly annoyed by the French in his rear, finally conducted his army into the valley of the Rhine, with a loss of 3000 men, of whom far more perished from cold, fatigue, and hunger, than from the enemies' bullets. (See Rtes. 73, 75.)

Flüelen—(Italian *Fiora*—*Inns*: Adler, Croix Blanche, both opposite the steamboat pier)—the port of canton Uri, at the S. extremity of the lake of the Four Cantons, is a small village in a not very healthy situation. The malaria from the marshy ground produced by the deposits of the Reuss at its entrance into the lake has been abated by means of works undertaken on a large scale to deepen the mouth of the Reuss, and thus drain the upper country. *Conveyances* and *Post-horses* may always be had here.

The *Steamer* touches here five times a day from Lucerne, and returns after a short stay; it takes carriages. (See

Rte. 18.) A pier, alongside of which the steamers are moored, offers a convenient landing-place. About 2 m. off lies

Altorf—Inns: Adler, good; Schlüssel (Clef d'Or), civil people; Bär; Löwe; Krone; Aigle, good. This is the capital of the canton Uri, the poorest and least populous in the Confederation, numbering altogether only 13,500 souls: it is a dull, lifeless village of 2426 Inhab., without trade or manufactures, and still exhibiting signs of the conflagration of 1799, which reduced the larger part of it to ashes. It was the early home of the great Guelph family, and, if credit is to be given to tradition, it was on the open square in the centre of Altorf that William Tell shot the apple from off his son's head. The place where he stood to take aim is marked by a *plaster statue of Tell* (!), a gift of the riflemen of Zurich. The lime-tree, upon which Gessler's cap was stuck, for all men to do obeisance to it as they passed, and to which the child was bound, to serve as a mark for his father's bolt, existed a withered trunk, down to 1567, when it was cut down and replaced by a fountain.

The tall *Tower*, ornamented with rude frescoes, representing Tell and Gessler, has been stated erroneously by some writers to occupy the site of the lime-tree; but it is proved by records still in existence to have been built before the time of Tell.

On quitting Altorf the road crosses the mouth of the vale of Schächen, traversing, by a bridge, the stream in which, according to tradition, William Tell lost his life (1350) in endeavouring to rescue a child from the waterfall of Bürglen. He plunged in, and neither he nor the child was seen after. Tell was a native of the Schächenthal, having been born in the village of Bürglen (*Inn* and Pension, William Tell, much resorted to, in a delightful site), a little to the l. of our road. The small *Chapel*, backed by an ivy-clad tower, rudely painted with the events of his life, was built in 1522 on the spot where his house stood, near

the churchyard. The inhabitants of this valley are considered the finest race of men in Switzerland. A path runs up it, and across the Klausen Pass (Rte. 76) to the baths of Stachelberg, in canton Glarus, and another over the Kinzig Kulm (Rte. 75), into the Muotta Thal.

On the l. bank of the Reuss, opposite its junction with the Schächen, stands Attinghausen, the birthplace of *Walter Furst*, one of the three liberators of Switzerland: his house is still pointed out. Above it rise the ruins of a castle, whose baronial owners became extinct in 1357, when the last of the race was buried in his helmet and hauberk. At *Bützlingen*, 3 m. above Altorf, the parliament (*Landesgemeinde*) of the canton Uri is held every year, on the first Sunday in May, to settle the affairs of the state. Every male citizen above the age of 20, except a priest, has a vote. The authorities of the canton, on horseback, with the Landammann at their head, preceded by a detachment of militia, with military music, and the standard of the canton attended by the beadles in their costume of yellow and black, and by two men in the ancient Swiss garb of the same colour, bearing aloft the two celebrated buffalo-horns of Uri, march to the spot in procession. From a semi-circular hustings, erected for the purpose, the business of the day is proclaimed to the assembled crowd, and the different speakers deliver their harangues, after which the question is put to the vote by show of hands. When all affairs of state are despatched, the Landammann and other public officers resign, and are either re-elected or others are chosen in their place. It is possible that alterations have been made in these things, under the great political changes which have recently taken place in Switzerland.

After leaving Altorf the road passes through pretty meadows shaded with fine walnut-trees as far as Amsteg. l. rises the rocky wall of the Windgelle, a continuation of the Klariden-Grat, and Scheerhorn. A flat surface on

the precipice returns a very distinct echo. A little way from Klus, a village half-way to Amsteg, the wild defile of the Surenen opens rt. (Rte. 31). At Klus the road approaches the margin of the Reuss, and beyond, at the hamlet of Silinen, it is partly cut through the rock, passes under the ruins of a tower, by some supposed to be the castle of *Zwing Uri* (Restraint of Uri), the construction of which by the tyrant Gessler, to overawe the peasants, roused the suspicion and indignation of the Swiss; so that it was demolished by them in 1308, on the first outbreak of the revolt against Austria.

Amsteg (Inns : *Croix Blanche ; Hirsch, good country inn ; Stern), delightfully situated, and although not a post station, it is a convenient place for those to stop at who cross the lake by the afternoon steamer from Lucerne. It stands at the mouth of the *Maderaner* or *Kerstelen Thal*, which stretches E. as far as the base of the Clariden Grat, a valley little visited, but well worth exploring; abounding in waterfalls and glaciers, and magnificent pine forests. [A track leads to Disentis over the Kreuzli Pass (see Rte. 83), and an ice-path over the Clariden Grat to Stachelberg; $\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. to châteaux of Waldibalm in the Maderaner Thal, $\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. up a faint track high above l. of Hüfi Glacier, to where the ice is taken, $\frac{3}{4}$ h. to the Grat; 8 hours, including stoppages, by a circuitous route (which might be shortened by crossing the Grat under the Catschafrauls and descending by the Sand Firn), to Sand Alp châteaux. After this, 3 hrs. to Stachelberg. Guides, Ch. Aylmer, P. Peru, and M. Andermatten.—*Alp. Journ.*, iii. 134. N.B. An inn is opened in the Maderaner Thal, near the foot of the Hüfi Glacier.]

At the bridge of Amsteg the road first crosses the Reuss and now begins to ascend, having on the l. hand the river below, in a deep channel, dashing from rock to rock in an almost uninterrupted cataract, and above the huge mass of the *Bristenstock*, rising in tiers of almost perpendicular precipices. The traveller

from the high road may trace the scene of the somewhat perilous adventure recounted by Mr. Kennedy in 'Peaks, Passes, and Glaciers.'

Intsch. A second bridge carries it back to the rt. bank; and, after traversing a wood, a third, called *Pfaffensprung* (priest's leap), from a fable of a monk having leaped across it with a maiden in his arms, brings the traveller to the torrent *Mayenbach*, descending from the Susten Pass (Rte. 32), which joins the Reuss immediately below.

Wasen (Inns : H. des Alpes; Ochs, fair), a village of 550 Inhab., on the l. bank of the Reuss, at the mouth of the *Mayenthal*. Winding from side to side, the road slowly toils upward to *Göschenen*, where a narrow valley opens to the W., through which the torrent of the *Göschenen Reuss* descends from one of the glaciers of the *Galenstock*. Here the main valley assumes a more savage character, contracting into the narrow ravine of *Schöllinen*, bounded for nearly 3 m. by impending cliffs of granite. One vast fragment, skirted by the road, was dropped here, according to the popular legend, by the devil, and is thence called *Teufelstein*. This defile is a scene of desolation and awful grandeur; the walls of rock seem almost to exclude the light of day, scarce a blade of grass is to be seen, and nothing heard but the wild dashing of the Reuss at the foot of the precipice below the road, from which hoarse sounds this part of the valley gets the name of *Krachenthal*. The road hereabouts is much exposed in spring to danger from avalanches. Here and there niches are cut in the rock to shelter passers, and a part of the road is roofed by a stone *gallery*. The remains of the former road are seen on the opposite side of the valley. The difficulties of the ascent are next overcome by the skill of the engineer, who has constructed a series of complicated zigzag terraces, first on one side of the Reuss and then on the other, by means of which, and of numerous bridges, the traveller at length reaches

The *Devil's Bridge*, situated in the

midst of the most stern but magnificent scenery of the whole pass. The Reuss leaps down into the head of this savage gorge in a lofty cataract, and in the very midst of its din and spray. Very precipitous rocks of granite, remarkable for the stern nakedness of their surface, hem in the bed of the river on both sides; those on the left bank leaving not an inch of space for the sole of a foot at their base, except what has been hewn out of it by human art. For ages this must have been a complete cul-de-sac, until, by human ingenuity, the torrent was bridged and the rock bored through. The old bridge, a thin segment of a circle, spanning a terrific abyss, had originally an air at once of boldness and fragility, much of which it has lost by the contrast with the towering and more solid structure that has now entirely superseded it, and seems, as it were, to domineer over it. The single arch of slight masonry, suspended in the air at a height of 70 ft. above the Reuss, with scarce a parapet at the side, and with barely breadth to allow two persons to pass, almost seemed to tremble with the rushing of the torrent under the feet of the traveller. Modern improvements have deprived the bridge and its vicinity of much of its terror and sublimity. A commodious and gradually sloping terrace, hewn out of the solid rock at the foot of the precipice, leads to the broad and massive new bridge, which, though nearer to the fall than the old, may be passed without the slightest emotion of the nerves, thanks to its solidity and high parapets. It is of granite; the arch 25 ft. span: it was finished 1830. The construction of this part of the road presented great difficulties to the engineer from the hardness and smoothness of the precipitous rocks and the want of easy access to them: indeed, the mines necessary for blasting the granite could only be formed by workmen suspended by ropes from above, and dangling in the air like spiders at the end of their threads. The ancient bridge was first founded by Abbot Gerald, of Einsiedeln, in 1118, so that, in the naming of it, the

devil has received more than his due: it has been allowed to remain beneath the new bridge, though no longer of any use. During the extraordinary campaign of 1799, the Devil's Bridge and the defile of the Schellinen were twice obstinately contested within the space of little more than a month. On the 14th of August the united French column, under Lecourbe and Loison, having surprised the Austrians, drove them up the valley of the Reuss, as far as this bridge, which, having been converted into an entrenched position, was defended by them for some time. The ancient Devil's Bridge was approached from the lower part of the valley by a terrace abutting against the precipice, interrupted in one place by a chasm. The road was continued over this upon an arch of masonry which supported a sort of causeway. At last even this was carried by the French, who, in their impetuous pursuit, followed their enemies across this arch. In a moment, while a crowd of combatants were upon it, it was blown into the air, and hundreds were precipitated into the abyss below. During the night the Austrians, alarmed by the appearance of another French force in their rear, evacuated altogether the valley of the Reuss. On the 24th of the following September the tide of war took an opposite turn. Suwarrow, pouring down from the summit of the St. Gothard, at the head of 5000 horse and 18,000 foot, compelled the French, in their turn, to retire before him. The progress of the Russians was arrested here for a short time, as they found the road broken up, the Urnerloch filled with rocks, and the passage down the valley interrupted by the gap in the causeway beyond the bridge, caused by the blowing up of the arch. A murderous fire from the French swept away all who approached the edge of the chasm; but the Russian columns, eager for advance, by their pressure pushed the foremost ranks into the foaming Reuss. The impediments in the road were soon removed; an extemporaneous arch was constructed by binding

together beams of wood with officers' scarfs; and over this the Russian army passed, pursuing the enemy as far as Altdorf. This is the picturesque version of these actions in some modern histories; the truth, however, seems to be that the bridge (as its venerable appearance testifies) was not blown up, but that one of the arches leading to it was destroyed; and the Austrians took up so strong a position, that the French were unable to force the pass, and waited a day or two till they had sent troops over the mountains, threatening the flanks and rear of the Austrians, who then retreated. Nearly the same thing took place when the Russians advanced; in fact, these passes were never forced if tolerably defended, but the attacking party were always obliged to avail themselves of their superior numbers and turn the passes, coming down upon the flanks and rear of the enemy (see Rte. 26). For correct accounts of the extraordinary actions among these mountains, only Jomini, the military historian, can be relied on.

Immediately above, after passing the Devil's Bridge, the road is carried through a tunnel, bored for 180 feet through the solid rock, called *Urnerloch*, or *Hole of Uri*. It is 180 ft. long, 15 ft. high, and 16 ft. broad. Previous to its construction, in 1707, the only mode of passing the buttress of rock which here projects into the river, so as to deny all passage, was by a bridge, or shelf of boards, suspended on the outside by chains from above. By means of this the traveller doubled, as it were, the shoulder of the mountain, enveloped in the spray of the torrent, within a few feet of which the frail structure was hung. The Gallery of Uri was originally constructed by a Swiss engineer named Moretini; but was only passable for mules, until, in reconstructing the St. Gothard road, it was enlarged to admit carriages.

Out of this gallery the traveller emerges into the wide basin-shaped pastoral valley of Urseren, which, in contrast with the savage gorge of Schellinen, and from the suddenness of the transition, has obtained from

most travellers the praise of beauty and fertility. Taken by itself, however, it has little but its verdure to recommend it: owing to its great height, 4356 ft. above the sea, scarcely any trees grow in it, and the inhabitants supply themselves with corn for bread from more fortunate lands. The lower part of it was probably once a lake, until a passage was opened for the Reuss through the rocks of Schellinen. It was originally colonised, it is supposed, by the Rhætians. The usual entrance to it was by the pass of the Oberalp. Its inhabitants spoke the language of the Grisons, and the valley was a dependence of the abbot of Disentis. Down to the 14th century it remained closed up at its lower extremity, and had no direct communication with the lower valley of the Reuss. About that time, however, a path seems to have been opened; and the men of Urseren, allying themselves with those of Uri, threw off the yoke of their former feudal lords. A mile from the gallery of Uri lies

Andermatt, or *Urseren* (Ital. *Orsera*)—(*Inns*: Drei Könige (Poste); H. du St. Gothard, very good and moderate, Dr. Christin is the host). It is a village of 600 Inhab., and the chief place of the valley, 4450 feet above the sea-level; 20 min. walk from the Devil's Bridge. The honey and cheese made on the surrounding pastures are excellent; and the red trout of the Oberalp See enjoy the reputation, with hungry travellers, of being the finest in the world. They are at least an excellent dish, either at breakfast or dinner. The *Church of St. Columbanus* is said to have been built by the Lombards. On the slope of the mountain of St. Anne, which is surmounted by a glacier, above the village, are the scanty remains of a forest, the last relic of that which perhaps at one time clothed the sides of the valley entirely. "It is of a triangular form, with one of its angles pointed upwards; and is so placed as not only to break the fall of heavy bodies of snow, but to divide the masses, throwing them off on its two

sides. It is now a slight and seemingly a perishable defence." The providence of the inhabitants, at an early period, had reduced it to a small grove, which those of later times had learned to value for the protection it afforded to their dwellings from falling avalanches. They therefore guarded it with the utmost care, abstaining from cutting down a stem of it; but, in 1799, foreign invaders, reckless of the consequences, felled a great part of it, and consumed it for firewood, or to repair the Devil's Bridge.

This was but one of the evils which that calamitous year brought upon this remote and peaceful valley, when the armies of three nations chose it for the arena of their combats, letting loose the furies—fire, famine, and slaughter—upon its unfortunate inhabitants. Suwarrow's hordes arrived at Andermatt in that year, famished with hunger. Like ravenous wolves, they seized and consumed everything they could lay hands on. They greedily devoured a store of soap which they found in the larder of the inn; and, cutting into pieces some skins which had been hung out to dry previously to being tanned, boiled and ate them also.

A char-road stretches up the steep lateral valley behind Andermatt, across the Oberalp and past its lake, to Disentis, in the Grisons. (Rte. 82.)

The vale of Urseren is about 9 m. long, and nearly 1 broad. It contains 4 villages, and 1360 Inhab., who gain a subsistence by rearing cattle and keeping dairies, and by forwarding the transit of goods across the St. Gothard, for which purpose 300 horses are kept in it. At Andermatt, Hospenthal, and Airolo, are many mineral-dealers, from whom specimens may be purchased of the numerous rare and valuable minerals with which the range of the St. Gothard abounds. The variety of species is surprising, and the cabinet of the mineralogist derives some of the rarest substances from these Alps.

On the l. of the road, in going to

Hôpital, two rude stone pillars may be, or lately might have been, seen; they are the *potence* or gallows belonging to Andermatt, dating from the time when the valley of Urseren was an independent state, and Andermatt, the chief place in it, enjoyed the right of criminal jurisdiction, now removed to Altdorf. It is curious to observe to what an extent the possession of a gallows, and the right of hanging criminals thereon, was an object of pride in ancient times. Such relics were once found throughout Switzerland: they seem everywhere to have been preserved almost with veneration, and were kept in constant repair, though destined never more to be used.

2 m. above Andermatt is

Hospenthal, or Hôpital—Inns: Meyerhof, a large hotel opened in 1860, very good; pension during the summer; guides, horses, and carriages found here;—Goldener Löwe (Golden Lion), very good. Excellent honey and trout, and horses and good carriages. Though not a post-station, this is a preferable stopping place to Andermatt.

Hospenthal receives its name from an hospice which no longer exists. Above the village rises a venerable tower, said to be, like the church of Andermatt, a work of the Lombards.

[The mule-path over the Furca (Rte. 26) leads hence to the glacier of the Rhone, and the hospice of the Grimsel. It is to be made a char-road, like its continuation, the road over the Oberalp to Disentis.]

The high road now quits the valley of Urseren, and following the course of the Reuss, begins to ascend by numerous zigzags to the summit of the St. Gothard, which may be reached in about $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours from Hospenthal, walking.

Under the name of St. Gothard are comprised, not merely the depression, or col, over which the road passes, but a group or clump of mountains, all exceeding in elevation the snow-line, situated between the cantons of Uri, Valais, Ticino, and Grisons; and containing the sources of the Rhine, the

Rhone, the Reuss, and the Ticino, all of which, with innumerable tributaries, rise within a circle of 10 miles, described from the summit of the Pass.

The river Reuss may be said to fall, rather than flow, into the lake of the Four Cantons. Between Urseren and Flüelen it descends 3000 feet, and between Urseren and the top of the Pass 3000 more, forming a succession of cataraacts. Near the summit of the Pass, the road crosses it for the last time by the bridge of Rodunt, which marks the boundary of the cantons Uri and Ticino. The source of the Reuss is in the small lake of Lucendro, a short distance on the right of the road. The summit of the Pass (6808 feet above the sea) is a valley, or saddle-shaped depression, in the great granite ridge of the central chain, overlooked by snow-clad peaks varying between 8000 and 10,000 feet in height. It is a scene of the most complete sterility and desolation: the road winds among several other small lakes or ponds, some of which flow N., but the greater part are feeders of the Ticino, on the S. side of the Pass. They may, indeed, be regarded as the head-waters of that river, which gives its name to the canton Tessin, or Ticino. A few minutes' walk below the summit is the *Post-house*, and close to it the

Hospice, a massive and roomy building, constructed at the expense of the canton Ticino, which has also caused several houses of refuge to be built, is designed for the accommodation of travellers, being fitted up roughly as an inn, containing 15 beds, under the management of a priest. Attached to it are warehouses for goods. From Oct. 1, 1860, to Oct. 1, 1861, 14,693 poor travellers were entertained at the hospice at a cost of 12,066 fr. A very humble hospice and a chapel have existed on this spot ever since the 13th century, owing their origin to the Abbot of Disentis, who stationed a monk here to minister to the spiritual as well as physical wants of distressed travellers. In the 17th century St. Carlo Borromeo suggested the construction of a hospice on a larger

scale, which, after his death, was executed by his brother. This building was swept away in 1775 by an avalanche: another, which succeeded it, was gutted by the French, while encamped on this spot in 1799-1800, and every particle of wood burnt as fuel. This older hospice, however, is still kept up. It was until lately the only house for the reception of travellers on the summit. There is an *Inn*, of a humble kind, close to the road.

The passage in winter and spring is by no means free from danger: the snow is sometimes heaped up in drifts 40 feet high on the summit, and the descent towards Airolo is much exposed at times to tourmentes and avalanches (§ 17). Although communication across the pass is seldom interrupted for more than a day or two at a time, ladies or delicate persons should not attempt the passage except during the summer or autumn. A year seldom passes without the loss of 3 or 4 lives, and at times melancholy catastrophes have occurred. The spot called *Buco dei Calanchetti* is so named from a party of glaziers from the Val Calanca, who, persisting in pushing on from the hospice, in spite of the warnings of the inmates, were buried here beneath the snow. In 1478 an avalanche swept away a troop of 60 Swiss soldiers; in 1624 another, which fell from the Cassadra, buried 300 persons; and one in 1814 overwhelmed 40 horses laden with goods. The new line of road is carried as much as possible out of the course of these dangers, and, though it is unprotected by any covered galleries, accidents of this kind are more rare.

The descent towards Italy displays much skilful engineering; and the difficulties of a slope, much steeper on this side than on the other, have been overcome by a series of 28 zigzag terraces not exceeded in numbers and tortuous direction on any other Alpine pass. They begin a little beyond the hospice, and continue nearly all the way to Airolo. The turnings are less sharp than on many other passes; and a carriage drawn by horses accus-

tomed to the work may trot down at a quick pace. Near the uppermost zigzag the words *Suwarrow Victor*, in large letters on the face of the rock, record the success of the Russians in gaining the Pass from the French in 1799. It was on this ascent that the Russian grenadiers were for some time arrested by the fire of the French riflemen posted behind rocks and trees. The aged Suwarrow, indignant at being foiled for the first time in his life, caused a grave to be dug, and, lying down in it, declared his resolution to be buried on the spot where "his children" had been repulsed. This appeal was responded to by his soldiers with warmth, and, when he once more put himself at their head, they drove the republicans from their position. The gully down which the road passes is called *Val Tremola* (Germ. Trümmeln Thal), Trembling Valley, from its supposed effect on the nerves of those who passed it. Since the new road has been made, its terrors, whatever they were previously, have been much softened. It is, however, exposed to some danger from avalanches in spring. A very pretty mineral, named from this locality, where it was first found, Tremolite, abounds in the rock of the valley, and specimens of it occur even in the walls and loose stones at the road-side. The old road lay along the l. bank of the Ticino; the new keeps on the rt. side of it, and before reaching Airolo makes many wide sweeps along the flank of the mountain, up into the Val Bedretto, traversing the forest of Piotella, where the slate rocks are full of crystals of garnet. The view up and down the vale of the Ticino and over the mountains on the opposite side of it is extremely fine.

Airolo (Germ. *Eriels*)—*Inns*: Post, best; Tre Re, good. Airolo lies on the l. bank of the Tessin, near the junction of the branch flowing out of the Val Bedretto with that rising on the St. Gothard. It is 3871 feet above the sea-level, and its inhabitants, both in habit and language, are Italian. The situation at the foot of St. Gothard, and the consequent

transit of travellers and goods, are its chief sources of prosperity. It possesses a relic of antiquity: the stump of a tower called *Il Castello*, and Casa dei Pagani, built, it is said, by Desiderius King of the Lombards, A.D. 774. The Lombard kings constructed a line of similar forts from this all the way to Como, many of which will be passed by the traveller in descending the valley.

The summit of the Pass may be reached from Airolo by a *light* carriage in $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 hrs.; a leader must be taken up to the Hospice = $1\frac{1}{2}$ post is charged; by means of the old road and short cuts a pedestrian may ascend, and even descend, in less time than a carriage.

[Several mule-paths meet at Airolo. 1. Up the Val Bedretto to the Nüfenen Pass (Rte. 63): 2. By the Uomo Pass into the Grisons (Rte. 84): 3. Into the Val Formazza by Hospital all' Acqua (see Rte. 62): 4. A summer path, and difficult, ascending by the N.W. side of the Val Canaria, past the beautiful waterfall of Calcaccia (?), and over the Nera Pass to Andermatt. The head of the Val Canaria is occupied by a small lake; the scenery is wild and rugged; and the pass, over which there is no defined track, is both steep and difficult.]

At the mouth of the picturesque glen of Stalvedro is a Lombard tower of King Desiderius, near Quinto. This pass was defended Sept. 1799, by a body of 600 French, against 3000 grenadiers of Suwarrow's army for 12 hrs., after which they effected their retreat over the Nüfenen into the Valais. The part of the valley of the Ticino traversed by the road from this to Biasca is called *Val Leventina*—*Livinen Thal* in Germ. A few miles lower down the river threads another defile, named after a toll-house within it

Dazio Grande,—a rent in the Monte Piottino (Platifer), nearly a mile long, and one of the most picturesque scenes on the whole route. The old carriage-road threaded the depths of the gorge, supported for a great part of the way on arches and terraces, and crossing the river thrice on bridges. During the storms of 1834 and of 1839, the

swollen Ticino swept away nearly the whole of these costly constructions. A new line is now constructed at a higher level above the river, out of the reach of inundations, to replace that which has been destroyed;—a proof of the immense difficulty of maintaining a road over the Alps. The descent is less rapid than the old line; it passes 3 short tunnels. On emerging from the last of these a waterfall is seen on the rt. resembling that (now defunct) of the Pelerins near Chamouni,—a shoot of water projected forwards and upwards.

Chestnut-trees first appear soon after quitting the defile of Dazio, and vines are cultivated at

Faido — (*Inns*: Angelo, good;—*Sole*)—the principal place in the valley, a small town of 615 Inhab.

There is a pretty *waterfall* of the *Piumogna* opposite *Faido*, worth visiting, especially the upper fall, a short walk from the inn.

A revolt of the people of the Val Leventina, in 1755, against their tyrannical lords and masters the cowherds of Uri, to whom they had been subject since the 15th century, was terminated on this spot by the execution of the ringleaders, whose heads were fastened to the trunks of the vast chestnut-trees, in the presence of 3000 men of the valley. The troops of the Confederation had previously surrounded and disarmed this ill-starred band of rebels, and afterwards compelled them, on bended knees, to sue for mercy. The revolt was, perhaps, not to be justified; but one thing at least is certain, that the freedom which had been the boast of the Swiss republicans was, down to the end of the last century, denied by them to the states dependent on them, who groaned under a bondage more intolerable than that of any monarchical despotism!

A footpath runs from *Faido* over the *Lukmanier* (Rte. 85) to *Disentis*.

Through a highly cultivated tract the road reaches another fine defile full of chestnut-trees.

Giornico (Germ. *Irnis*: *Inns*, H. du Cerf, clean; *La Corona*, dirty), a village of 700 Inhab. A high tower: [*Switz.*]

the *Ch. of Santa Maria di Castello*, whose substructure is said to exhibit traces of a fort, attributed to the Gauls (?); and the *Ch. of San Nicholas da Mira*, regarded by the vulgar as originally a heathen temple. Both these churches are certainly examples of the earliest form of Christian buildings, and highly deserve the attention of the architect and antiquary. "Service is not performed in *St. Nicholas*, though it is kept in repair. The architecture is of the rudest Romanesque style, and the E. end offers, perhaps, the most unaltered specimen of the choir raised upon substructions that can hardly be called a crypt, found in the ancient Lombard churches of Italy, distinguished by staircases, whereas it here subsists in its primitive form. The whole neighbourhood is exceedingly picturesque, and deserving at least of quite as much attention as many places which enjoy much more extended reputation."—P. The number and height of the church-towers on the side of the Alps, even on spots where wealth and population appear most scanty, are among the most striking features of this country. Instead of being surmounted by spires, as in the Roman Catholic valleys of the neighbouring Grisons, they are here piled story upon story in the Italian fashion, sometimes reaching even to an eighth tier, and ending in a ridge roof.

Halfway to

Bodio (*Inn*: *Post*), a heap of large rocks (*Sassi Grossi*) serves as a monument of the victory gained here in 1478 over the Milanese by the Swiss, who had made a foray across the *St. Gothard* as far as *Bellinzona*, under pretext of redressing the injury done by the Milanese, in having felled some trees belonging to canton Uri. The winter had set in with severity, and the main body of the Swiss had returned across the pass with their plunder, leaving behind only about 600 men under Captains *Stranga* of *Giornico*, and *Troger* of *Uri*. The Milanese, 15,000 strong, pressed forward to expel the highland invaders, who, resorting to stratagem to counteract the prepon-

derance of numbers, laid the flat land in this part of the valley under water, and, placing themselves behind it, awaited their enemies at the foot of some rocks. In the course of the night the water froze hard, and next morning, while the advance of the Italians across the ice was naturally slow and faltering, the Swiss, accustomed to cross their native glaciers, rushed down upon them in a furious charge, and at once put them to the rout. Their confusion was increased by vast masses of rock hurled from the cliffs above by parties stationed for the purpose, and the slaughter was enormous. According to some accounts 1400, according to others 4000, of the Milanese fell on this occasion.

The Val Leventina terminates a little beyond Pollegio, at the junction of the Blegno. After crossing that river the traveller reaches

Biasca (*Inn*: Union, poor and slovenly), which also contains a very ancient church, situated on the slope of the hill. A chain of chapels, or *Via Crucis*, leads from it up to the Chapel of St. Petronilla, whence there is a pleasing view.

In 1512 an earthquake shook down from the mountain of Val Crenone, near the entrance of the *Val Blegno*, so vast a mass of earth and rock that it arrested the course of the river, and extended high up on the opposite side of the valley. For nearly two years, so great was the strength of this dam that the waters accumulated behind it into a lake many miles in extent, inundating numerous villages, and driving out the inhabitants by the rising flood. At length, in 1514, it began to flow over the barrier, which, being thus loosened and weakened, suddenly gave way about Easter. The deluge thus occasioned swept off everything before it—towns, villages, houses, and trees, as far as Bellinzona (a part of which was destroyed), and the Lago Maggiore. The accumulated débris of rocks and mud which it carried down with it covered the cultivated land with desolation, and marks of the ruin thus caused may be still traced along the valley. Various

causes, conformable with the superstitious notions of the times, were assigned for this catastrophe. Some attributed it to the vengeance of God against the sins of the inhabitants of Biasca, called forth by the power of a Papal Brief; others traced it to the influence of "certain magicians from Armenia." It is satisfactorily accounted for by the supposition of an earthquake, since at the same time a similar fall took place from the opposite side of the mountain, which buried the village of Campo Bagnino, in the Val Calanka.

1½ m. from Biasca our road falls into that from the pass of the Bernardin (*Rte.* 91).

Below the junction of the rivers Moesa and Ticino stands *Arbedo*, memorable in history for the severe defeat which the Swiss sustained here from the Milanese, commanded by the celebrated generals Della Pergola and Carmagnola, in 1422. Near the Church of St. Paul, called *Chiesa Rossa*, from its red colour, 2000 Swiss lie buried under 3 large mounds, still distinguishable. Defeat was at that period so unusual to the Swiss, even from a greatly superior force, that they retired across the Alps abashed and discouraged.

The distant aspect of Bellinzona, surrounded by battlemented walls, which once stretched quite across the valley, and overhung by no less than 3 feudal castles, is exceedingly imposing and picturesque. It looks as though it still commanded, as it once did, the passage of the valley. The luxuriance of vegetation, and the magnificent forms of the mountains around, complete the grandeur of the picture.

Bellinzona (*Germ.* *Bellenz*).—*Inns*: Angelo, clean and good; Hôtel de Ville, very fair and reasonable.

Bellinzona, situated on the l. bank of the Ticino, here restrained by a long stone dam (*Tondo Ripario*), and crossed by a bridge of 14 arches, contains 2361 Inhab., and is one of the 3 chief towns of the canton Tessin, and becomes the seat of government alternately with Lugano and Locarno,

for 6 years together. The view of it in approaching is very striking, owing to the 3 *old castles* which rise above it, and still seem to bar all passage. Within, it has all the character of an Italian town in its narrow and dirty streets, and in the arcades which run under its houses. It stretches across the valley to the river, so that the only passage up or down lies through its gates. It is still a place of commercial importance as an entrepôt for the merchandise of Germany and Italy—situated as it is at the union of 4 roads—from the St. Gothard, the Bernardin, from Lugano, and from Locarno, on the Lago Maggiore. It is of still greater military consequence, as the key of the passage from Lombardy into Germany, and has been strengthened by modern fortifications. It became the fruitful cause of intrigue, contest, and bloodshed, between the crafty Italians and the encroaching Swiss. The latter first obtained possession of it, and of the Val Leventina, by a nominal bargain of 2400 florins paid to the lord of Misox, and they obtained from the Empr. Sigismund a confirmation of their title. The Duke of Milan, Philip Maria Visconti, whose ancestors had lost this territory, by no means acquiesced in this transfer, and, seizing a favourable opportunity, surprised the Swiss garrison of Bellinzona by a Milanese force under Della Pergola, and took possession of the town and valley. It was this event which led to the battle of Arbedo, in which the Swiss received so severe a check. They afterwards twice gained possession of Bellinzona and its subject valleys by hard fighting, “by the help of God and their halberts,” as they boastingly proclaimed, first from the Duke of Milan, and next from the French, who, in the reign of Louis XII., obtained temporary possession of these valleys.

From the beginning of the 16th to the end of the 18th century, the Swiss maintained uninterrupted possession of Bellinzona, governing its territory as a state subject to the cantons, with a

rule as tyrannic as that of the absolute dukes of Milan, their predecessors. Since 1814 it forms part of the canton Ticino, or Tessin.

The *three picturesque Castles* which still seem to domineer over the town, though partly in ruins, were the residence of the 3 Swiss bailiffs deputed to govern the district, and were occupied by a garrison, and armed with some pieces of cannon. The largest, called *Castello Grande*, or *San Michele*, on an isolated hill to the W. of the town, belonged to canton Uri, and now serves as an arsenal and prison, and there is a fine view from it. In a tall tower are confined the prisoners who are condemned to imprisonment for life for murder. The other prisoners are in chains, but do not seem unhappy: 1 fr. will procure admission to the prison and view. Of the two castles on the E. the lower one, *Castello di Mezzo*, belonged to canton Schwytz, and the highest of all, *Castello Corbario*, to Unterwalden; they are both unoccupied.

There remains little else to particularise here. The *principal Church*, in the square, is a handsome modern building faced with white marble, and has a pulpit ornamented with historical bas-reliefs. There are several convents here. The *Ch. of S. Biaggio* (St. Blaize), in the suburb Ravecchia, outside the Lugano gate, is said to be very ancient. A few hours of Bellinzona are quite enough, and Locarno is a more pleasant place, and the inn as good.

From Bellinzona the traveller has the choice of two roads to Milan: by the Lago Maggiore (Rte. 111), or by the Lago di Lugano (Rte. 115).

ROUTE 35.

LAUTERBRUNNEN OR MÜRREN TO KIPPEL OR KANDERSTEG, BY THE TSCHINGEL GLACIER.

The passage of the Tschingel glacier has deservedly come into great repute among Alpine travellers during the last few years. The pass, especially the descent into the Lötsch Thal, is somewhat difficult, and none of the recognized precautions for glacier travelling should be omitted. If these be duly taken, with good guides, there is no danger. A good walker may easily perform the distance, either to Kippel or Kandersteg, in 1 day from Lauterbrunnen; but both in order to get early on the glacier, and to leave time for enjoying the scenery, which is of the grandest character, it is advisable to sleep at the chalet on the Steinberg Alp. This arrangement gives the traveller time to enjoy the scenery of the upper valley of Lauterbrunnen, and visit the fall of the Schmadribach on the preceding day, and a guide may be sent on to the Steinberg chalet to prepare the supper.

From Lauterbrunnen to the *Steinberg Alp* is a walk of 3 hrs., with a tolerable path, the latter part steep, but not difficult. From *Mürren* it takes rather less time by a pleasant path along the hill-side, passing a deserted silver-mine. The chalet was of the smallest dimensions, scarcely allowing space for more than 2 travellers to stretch themselves on the floor, while the guides and herdsmen stowed themselves away in a half-open hay-loft; but a more commodious shed has lately been completed. The E. side of the lower part of the Tschingel glacier is reached at a point about 1 m. from the chalet. Immediately above this the glacier descends a steep rocky slope, making at the same time a bend, whose convex side is to the E. As the

glacier itself is quite impracticable, it is necessary to reach its upper level by climbing the rocks on the western or concave side. At the part nearest to the bend of the glacier these do not appear very steep, but a little lower down, and immediately opposite the point at which the traveller first approaches the glacier, they appear impracticable; in one place, indeed, absolutely perpendicular. A practised mountaineer will, however, not fail to remark that the rocks near the glacier have all their edges rounded, and their surface smoothed, and he will generally see some loose blocks of ice lying at their base. Either indication is enough to show him that the spot is one which must be carefully avoided. Even if there were no danger, the smooth rocks are far more difficult to climb than the steeper, but rougher, rocks opposite. But this is one of the spots, common in the high Alps, where blocks of ice detached from the edge of an upper glacier fall at intervals over the rocks. There is but little chance of life for one who finds himself in the track of one of these falling blocks.

The passage of the glacier presents no difficulty, care being taken to keep well out of the range of the ice-blocks, whose scattered fragments travel some way over its surface. A steep bank of shattered slate on the W. bank of the glacier sometimes appears difficult to unpractised travellers. Above this is the very steep face of rock called the *Tschingel Tritt*, which is ordinarily considered to be the main difficulty of this route. It is not more than about 30 ft. high, and the goatherds and other natives are accustomed to place the trunk of a pine-tree leaning against the rock, so as to serve as a rude ladder. This, however, is constantly broken, or carried away by avalanches, so that it more commonly happens that the traveller has to ascend by climbing the rock. As this is rough, and gives good hold both for feet and hands, an experienced cragsman finds no particular difficulty; but the guides never fail to give abundant, and even super-

fluous assistance, while they often neglect the necessary precaution of the rope, against the more real, but not apparent, dangers of the upper glacier.

Above the Tschingel Tritt the ascent continues for some distance up rather steep slopes, till about 2 hrs. from the chalet the passage of the upper glacier commences. If not pressed for time, it is well worth while to make a slight détour (scarcely $\frac{1}{2}$ an hr.) to the *Gamschilücke*, an opening in the ridge on the rt., overlooking the Kien Thal (Rte. 36), and beyond it the plain of Switzerland and the distant range of the Jura. A portion of the panorama from this point of view is published in M. Gottlieb Studer's 'Topographische Mittheilungen.'

In about $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., ascending to the S.W. over the glacier, the col or pass is reached, between the Muthhorn, a dome-shaped summit, rising in the midst of the Tschingel glacier, and the *Frau*, or *Blümlis Alp*, which forms the northern barrier of its upper plateau.

At this point the routes to Kippel and Kandersteg diverge. In the direction which the track has hitherto followed, the snow sinks towards the S.W. into a glacier valley lying between the Blümlis Alp and the comparatively low and uniform range which extends from the Tschingelhorn to the Balmhorn and Altels. Over this latter range, which forms the boundary between Berne and Valais, lies the route to Kippel, in the Lötsch Thal.

A short descent, followed by a new ascent over moderate slopes of névé in a direction nearly due S., leads in about an hour to the summit, here called the *Peter's Grat*. One wide crevasse is passed near the top, but the glacier shows no others. The traveller should, however, recollect, though the guides often forget it, that precaution on the upper glaciers is most needed when no danger is apparent. Let a party be securely tied together, and they may go pretty nearly where they please. The summit

of the ridge is somewhat above 10,000 ft. in height, and commands a magnificent view; one too, which is new to most Alpine travellers. In addition to the grand ranges of snowy mountains which have been in view throughout the ascent, the traveller now finds himself exactly opposite to the chain whose two extremities are the *Aletschhorn* and the *Nesthorn*, and which separates the *Lötschthal* from the valley of the Rhone. The mean height of this magnificent range probably exceeds 12,000 ft. in height, and the *Nesthorn* or *Bietschhorn* from every point of view is a most striking and attractive object. The ascent of this peak, which probably commands the finest panoramic view to be found in the entire range of the Alps, unless that of the Aletschhorn be preferred to it, was first effected in 1859, by the Rev. Leslie Stephen, with 2 or 3 guides.

The broad snow-covered ridge of the Peter's Grat throws out several arms of glacier which descend into as many lateral valleys or glens of the Lötschthal. The usual course is to follow the E. side of the glacier which descends nearly due S. from the point at which the summit of the ridge is first attained. The slope, at first gentle, soon becomes more steep. The glacier varies extremely according to the season and the state of the snow. It is sometimes easy enough, sometimes decidedly difficult. At all times beware of concealed crevasses. In descending the grand views of the surrounding peaks are for a time concealed, and their place supplied by some wild rock scenery in the steep and narrow glen through which a torrent rushes to join the Lonza in the main valley below. In descending a barrier of rocks below the end of the glacier keep carefully to the track which is known to the guides; there is no other practicable way.

Where the path emerges into the Lötschthal there a fine view of the Nesthorn, and of the great glacier which closes in the upper end of the valley, [over which lies the glacier route to the Æggischhorn by the

Lötschsattel (Rte. 60). At the immediate foot of the pass, at Platten, accommodation may be had at the house of the *curé*; or similarly, $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. further at Kippel. This pass is sometimes made by taking the Peter's Grat at a point farther W., and descending into the Lötschthal by the W. side of the tributary glacier. In deciding the route it is best to rely on the local knowledge of the guides. In a favourable condition of the glacier the pass from the Steinberg Alp to Platten may be made in $8\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., but it may require 1 or 2 hrs. more.

Descent to Kandersteg.—From the col, at which the two routes diverge, which forms the proper limit between the Tschingel and Kander Glaciers, the *névé* at first inclines with a gentle slope towards the *Gasteren Thal*. This gradually becomes steeper, and after an hour's descent the increasing width of the crevasses makes it necessary to quit the glacier for the rocks on its S. or l.-hand bank. Here there is a spring, at which it is usual to halt for refreshment. A steep and rough descent without serious difficulty, and a short passage over the lower end of the glacier, lead in $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 hrs. from the summit to the highest *châlets* of the *Gasteren Thal*. The scenery of this wild and savage valley is of the highest order, and well deserves an excursion from Kandersteg by those who do not cross the pass. A tolerable track, used by the herdsmen, leads in 2 hrs. from the *châlets*, sometimes called *Gasterendorf*, or *Im Selden*, where milk, cheese, and, in case of need, hay to sleep upon, may be obtained, to *Kandersteg* (Rte. 37). Time, about 9 hrs. from the Steinberg *châlet*, exclusive of the *détour* to the *Gamschilücke* and of stoppages. The *Laueners* of *Lauterbrunnen* are excellent guides. *J. Kronig* is also well spoken of. In the *Lötschthal* *Joseph Appener* is well known and recommended.

ROUTE 36.

LAUTERBRUNNEN OR MÜRREN TO KANDERSTEG, BY THE PASSES OF THE SEEFINEN FURKE, AND DÜNDENGRAT.

This path is not practicable for mules, but there is probably no route among the Alps so free from danger, which leads through such a succession of magnificent scenery. The two passes, however, if taken in one day, make it very laborious, and the descent into the valley of *Oeschinen* is awkward after dark; the traveller, however good a walker he may be, will do well to allow himself 14 hrs. of daylight.

On leaving *Lauterbrunnen* there is a choice of routes: one by the valley, following the char-road to *Stechelberg*, and then turning to the right up the course of the stream which drains the *Seefinen Thal*; the other plan, which is in many respects preferable, is to mount from *Lauterbrunnen* to *Mürren* (Rte. 25 B), and sleep there, starting in good time on the following morning. The track mounts for some distance beyond *Mürren*, in order to turn the flank of a ridge which descends here from the *Schilthorn* on the rt. This brings the tourist to a position right opposite the *Jungfrau*, at about the height of the *Wengern Alp*, but with a view still more magnificent. The great chain of Alps from the *Wetterhorn* to the *Breithorn* is in front, its continuation through the *Tschingel Horn* to the westward, as also the *Frau*, being from this point of view shut out by the nearer precipices of the *Gspaltenhorn*. Still farther to the west is visible the *Furke*; and descending from it, the torrent and the valley of the *Seefinen*. The ground slopes rapidly away from the foot down to the depths of the *Amerten Thal*. The *Jungfrau* is from this point of view, and from this alone, measured in one glance from the snow

on her summit to the level road at her feet: in a word, of her 13,718 ft. of altitude, more than 10,000 rise at once in precipices before the eye. The track now winds away along the slope of the mountain, and falls in with the valley path just at the foot of the pass. This Furke is a very remarkable depression between the Schilt-horn and Gspaltenhorn; and an enormous buttress of the latter here turns the direction of the route from W. to S.W. The ascent is rather steep, but the ground is favourable, and clear of snow; which lies, however, in long slopes to the left. The view from the summit (height 8572 ft.) is very fine, including the Faulhorn, and below it the Wengern Alp and its hotel, which is easily discernible. The upper part of the Kien Thal is seen to the L, filled up by the Gamschi glacier, over which it is said to be possible to gain the level of the Tschingel, through the opening called the Gamschilücke (Rte. 35). The descent into the *Kien Thal* requires rather an awkward circuit, which leads to a long slope of slate débris, requiring caution to avoid a slip. Next succeeds a long slope of snow, and then the green sward. The route taken by the guides leads to a bridge near the hamlet of Tschingel, so low down the valley as to increase considerably the toil of the next ascent; and if the tourist is fatigued, or the sun much past the meridian, he will do well either to make up his mind to sleep at some chalets near the head of the Kien Thal, or else to take the opportunity which here presents itself of descending to the char-road at Reichenbach. The ascent of the ridge separating the Kien Thal from the Oeschinen Thal, called the *Düdingrat*, is steep, but over good ground, and a view is soon obtained of the pyramidal Niesen, and the lake of Thun beyond it. Near the top it becomes rather rough, and the stones are succeeded by a bed of snow, which adds a good deal to the fatigue of the last half-hour of ascent: from the snow to the top of the ridge is but one step, and the next is down-

hill. Here a new scene of magnificence opens. The glittering Frau, which is here quite close, with a triple glacier streaming down from her side into the gulfs beneath, and farther off the Doldenhorn, and the beautiful lake of *Oeschinen* encompassed by it, form a scene unparalleled in the Alps; though resembling in some of its features the lake and glacier scenery near the summit of the Maloya. The descent from the high pastures to the level of the lake is practicable only by one route, where a path has been cut in steps here and there along the faces of the rocks. The path leads along the W. shore of the lake through a pine wood beyond it, in about 2 hrs. to the village and inn of Kandersteg. From Mürren to Kandersteg is about 10 hrs. walk exclusive of stoppages.

Kandersteg (see Rte. 37).

ROUTE 37.

PASS OF THE GEMMI, THUN TO THE BATHS OF LEUK (LÖÈCHE), AND TO LEUK IN THE VALAIS.

	Stunden.	Eng. m.
Thun to Frutigen	4½	14
Frutigen to Kandersteg . .	2½	8
Kandersteg to Schwarzenbach	2½	8
Schwarzenbach to Leukerbad .	2½	8
Leukerbad to Leuk	2½	8
	15	46

Carriage from Thun to Frutigen, 20 fr., 2 fr. bonnemain. Dil. 3 hrs., 2 fr. 20. A pleasanter route is to take the steamboat to Spiez, a very pretty place, near which is a good country *Inn*, Schöneegg. Hence a walk of 10 miles through fields leads to Frutigen. A carriage may usually be obtained at Spiez. Char from

Frutigen to Kandersteg with *bonne-main*, 8 fr. 50. Horse to Leukerbad, 20 fr. To Dauben See, 10 fr.

[In approaching the Gemmi from Interlaken the high road to Thun is left a little beyond Leissingen, and a char-road mounts the hill to *Æschi* (see further), and descends from thence to Mühlinen, about 4 leagues from Interlaken. Pedestrians may make a short cut.]

The Gemmi (pronounced Ghemmi) is one of the most remarkable passes across the Alps. Its scenery is, perhaps, extraordinary rather than grand. There is difference of opinion as to the side whence it is best approached. There is a good char-road for a mile and a half beyond Kandersteg, to the N. foot of the pass: the pass itself, and the space between it and the Baths, can only be surmounted on foot or on horseback.

The first part of the route lies along the beautiful shores of the lake of Thun. Near the tall tower of Strättlingen it crosses the Kander by a lofty bridge. That river originally avoided the lake altogether, and, flowing for some distance parallel to it, behind the hill of Strättlingen, joined the Aar below Thun. Owing to the quantity of mud and gravel which it brought with it, and the slight inclination of its channel in this part of its course, it converted the surrounding district into an unhealthy marsh, and gave rise to a project, which was executed in 1714 at the expense of the canton, of turning the river into the lake of Thun. This was effected by cutting a canal, 3000 ft. long, and 272 ft. broad, into which the river was turned; and which, seen from the bridge in crossing, has much the appearance of a natural ravine. By this change of course the land on the banks of the Aar has been drained and made profitable, while the deposit of sand and stones brought down by the river into the lake has so accumulated as to form a delta around its mouth, extending already nearly a mile from the shore, and annually increasing.

Wylser (5 m. from Thun) [a road

turns l. up to the village of *Æschi*. The ascent of $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. will be well repaid by the *view* from the *churchyard*. At your feet the Lake of Thun, with a peep into the singular Justis Thal on its N. side; beyond Thun the range of the Jura. On the l., close at hand, the rival mountains Niesen and Stockhorn tower above the Simmenthal. To the rt. stretches the Lake of Brienz; the Rothhorn and Pass of the Brünig rising from its shores, topped by the Titlis. To the S. the snowy giants of the Oberland rear their massive forms. There is a carriage road from *Æschi* direct to Mühlinen.]

The road passes the mouth of the Simmenthal (Rte. 42), guarded on one side by the Stockhorn, and on the rt. by the Niesen, two noble mountains, between which the valley opens out a scene of exceeding beauty, with the *castle of Wimmis* standing as it were in its jaws. [From Wimmis the *Ascent of the Niesen* is made in 5 hrs. (3 hrs. to descend)—a horse-path all the way, 7280 ft. high. There is an *Inn* with 12 beds, 5 min. walk below the summit. Grand view of fertile valleys and snowy Alps, including Mt. Blanc. The entire range N. of of the Rhone, from the *Altels* to the *Wetterhorn* is in sight. Dill's Panorama is hung up in the Inn.]

On the margin of the lake rises another picturesque castle, that of Spietz. Skirting the base of the pyramidal Niesen, we enter the valley of Frutigen, which is remarkable for its verdure and fertility, and may be said to exhibit Swiss pastoral scenery in perfection. At

Mühlinen (10 m. from Thun) is a nice little *Inn*, the Bear. At *Reichenbach* the *Kienthal* opens out to the S.E. (Rte. 36.) Ascending by the side of the Kander, we reach

Frütigen (*Inns*: Helvetia and Post, both very fair and reasonable; guides and mules for the Gemmi may be hired here), a village of 900 Inhab.: its houses are for the most part not older than 1826-7, at which time nearly all were destroyed in two consecutive conflagrations. Behind it the valley divides into two branches; that on the

W. leads to the Adelboden; that on the E. (down which flows the Kander) to the Gemmi.

[The ascent of the Niessen may be made from Frütigen in 4 hrs., but the path is much steeper than from Wimmis.]

The road passes under the castle of Tellenburg, the former residence of the amtman, or bailiff of the district, and, crossing the Kander, proceeds up its rt. bank. The snowy Altels closes the valley.

Kandersteg. Inns. There are two Inns, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile apart. H. de l'Ours, best, and conveniently situated for the Gemmi, being placed where the char-road ends, and the bridle-path begins. The other is the H. Victoria, opposite the entrance of the Eschinenthal. N.B. *Return* charrs to Thun may be got here for 8 to 10 frs.; with 2 horses, 12 to 20 frs. Horses to cross the Gemmi to the baths of Leuk cost 15 fr. before 9 A.M., 18 fr. after; 10 fr. to the Dauben See. From Kandersteg to Leukerbad is about 7 hrs.; the path is easy to find, and except in thick weather there is no occasion for a guide. Kandersteg is the last village in the valley: its scattered habitations contain about 700 individuals. It is beautifully situated 3280 ft. above the sea, at the N. base of the Gemmi. Wood cut in the mountain forests around is here set afloat in the Kander, and thus conveyed into the lake of Thun, where the logs are collected and separated by the various proprietors.

[*Excursions.*—a. Those who have time to spare should on no account omit to walk hence about 3 m. through a sublime gorge (see Rte. 36) into the side *Valley of Eschinen*, running directly E. from Kandersteg, where, hemmed in by precipices and glaciers, they will find a beautiful clear lake, which mirrors on its smooth surface the snowy peaks of the Blumli Alp, at whose base it lies.—b. No one will regret an expedition to the *Gasteren Thal*, which can be accomplished in about 7 hrs. No guide required. The path turns off close to the H. de l'Ours, and ascends a wild gorge with overhanging cliffs. In the middle of the

gorge a frail bridge is crossed, and the path then keeps to the rt. bank. 50 m. from Kandersteg the wide green *Gasteren Thal* opens, surrounded by precipices and waterfalls and snow mountains above them. The path runs through débris, and then ascends to the village of *Gasteren*. Soon afterwards the magnificent Kander Glacier is seen at the head of the valley (see Rte. 35). Those who have a steady head may from hence ascend the Gemmi by the rugged and difficult gorge of the Schwarzbach.—c. A path of no great difficulty leads W. in 5 hours, over the Bonder-Grat, to Adelboden (*Inn* tolerable.) It turns out of the char-road just above Kandersteg, crosses the grassy slopes to the foot of some rocks, which it surmounts by a ladder. From the summit (2 hrs. 50 min. walk) the view is fine, comprising the Monch, Jungfrau, and the whole of the Eschinenthal and lake. From Adelboden to Frütigen, a walk of 2 or 3 hours, through a deep but rather monotonous valley. Above Adelboden is a fall of some magnitude. From Adelboden there is an easy path over the *Hahnenmoos* pass, in $3\frac{1}{4}$ hrs., to An der Lenk (Rte. 39).]

Immediately after leaving the H. de l'Ours the char-road ceases; and the ascent of the Pass of the Gemmi commences in earnest behind. The path lies for the first $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. through forests in a steep ascent; it then passes the boundary line of the cantons Berne and Wallis. A new path ascends in zigzags through fir woods, and commands a fine view over the grand valley of Gasteren. It then emerges upon a tract of open pasture land, rendered desolate by the fall of an avalanche from the Rinder Horn in 1782. The path winds, for a considerable distance, among the fragments of rock brought down by it. Farther on stands the

Solitary *Inn of Schwärenbach*: it affords good refreshments and rough sleeping accommodation, which are often acceptable in such a situation. Complaints of extortion have been made. The German poet Werner has laid in this gloomy spot the scene of a

still more gloomy tragedy, 'The 24th of February.' The extravagant and improbable plot has no foundation in any real event which happened here.

[From this Inn the ascent of Altels (11,923 feet) may be made in about 7 hrs. altogether. The ascent is up a long slope of ice, is dangerous, and should not be attempted by less than 3 men tied together.]

About 2 m. above this the path reaches and winds along the E. margin of a small lake called *Dauben See*, supplied by snow, not by springs, which often swell it so as to cover the path: for 8 months of the year it is frozen. Nothing can exceed the dreary aspect of the seared and naked limestone rocks which form the summit of the pass: they seem too barren for even the hardiest lichens. The culminating point traversed by the road is 7540 ft. above the sea level, and about 1 hr. from Schwarzenbach. From a rocky eminence on the l. of the path, a superb view is obtained of the chain of Alps beyond the Rhone, separating the Valais from Piedmont.

The highest summits in the view, reckoning from the W., are these:—1. The Pigne d'Arolla, N.W. of the Collon; 2. the Collon itself, easily recognised by the deep cleft in its side; 3. the Dent Blanche. Then come three or four minor peaks of the range at the head of the Einfisch Thal. Above this range are seen—4. the Dent d'Erin; and, 5. the Cervin: both peaks of bare rock. The series is terminated by—6. the Weisshorn, the loftiest and nearest mountain visible; and, 7. the Saas Grat, which is in itself a complete group of snowy peaks. It is one of the most striking views in Switzerland.

Near the verge of the descent stands a small shed, capable of affording partial shelter in a storm. A little lower down the traveller finds himself on the brink of a precipice, from which a plumb-line might be thrown into the valley below, nearly 1600 ft., almost without touching the rock, so vertical are its sides. It is principally upon the faces of a buttress of this vast wall that one

of the most extraordinary of all the alpine roads, constructed in 1736-41, by a party of Tyrolese, has been carried. Its zigzags have been ingeniously contrived, for in many places the rocks overhang the path, and an upper terrace projects farther out than the one immediately below it. When it was first made and consisted merely of a shallow groove in the rock, it must have been far more striking than at present. The improvements that have been carried on year after year have ended in making it a roomy and perfectly good mule-path. It however needs greater protection at the side by garde-fous, and caution should be used in riding down this descent. A French lady in 1861, was riding without a guide at her mule's head, and becoming terrified at one of the turns of the road, tried hastily to dismount, and fell over the precipice and was dashed to pieces.

The wonders of this descent are greatly increased to those who approach it from the side of Leuk.

"The upper end of the valley, as you look towards the Gemmi, has all the appearance of a cul-de-sac shut in by a mountain wall. Up to the very last moment, and until you reach the foot of the precipice, it is impossible to discover the way out, or to tell whither the road goes, or how it can be carried up a vertical surface of rock. It is a mere shelf—in some parts a mere groove cut in the face of the huge cliff, just wide enough for a mule to pass; and at the turns of the zigzags you constantly overhang a depth of nearly 500 ft. Down this difficult road invalids are carried to the baths: it is the only way of approaching them from the N., unless you were to make a *slight* détour of 200 m. by Berne, Friburg, Vevay, and Martigny." On the face of a rock, near the foot, is a small building said to have been formerly used as a guard-house to give notice of any invasion from the Bernese side.

The following clause, relative to the transport of invalids, is copied from the printed regulations issued

by the director of the baths:—"Pour une personne au-dessus de 10 ans il faudra 4 porteurs; si elle est d'un poids au-dessus du commun, 6 porteurs: si cependant elle est d'un poids extraordinaire, et que le commissaire le juge nécessaire, il pourra ajouter 2 porteurs, et jamais plus." This provision for excessive corpulence is somewhat amusing. The ascent from the Baths to the summit takes 2 hrs.; a mule costs 4½ fr. up and down.

Baths of Leuk (Leukerbad, — Fr. Löèche). Inns: Hôtel des Alpes, best in all respects; Bellevue; H. de France; Couronne; Union, and Brunner, Brothers, cheap. The accommodation at Leuk is good, considering that most of the houses are of wood, not very well built, shut up and abandoned from October to May. The fare is tolerable, everything but milk and cheese being brought from the valley below. A bath costs 2 fr.

The baths consist of 5 or 6 lodging-houses, attached to a hamlet of about 300 Inhab., situated 4600 feet above the level of the sea, i.e. higher than the highest mountain in Great Britain, and at the end of a valley terminated on all sides by tremendous precipices, which will remind the traveller of a *cirque* in the Pyrenees. The hot springs (117° to 124° F.) annually attract a number of visitors, chiefly Swiss and French, during the season, viz. in the months of July and August, though the inns are open from May to October. From the dreariness of the situation, the coldness of the climate, and the defects of the lodging, few English would desire to prolong their stay here, after satisfying their curiosity by a sight of the place. The baths and adjacent buildings have been three times swept away by avalanches since their establishment in the 16th century; and, to guard against a recurrence of the calamity, a very strong dyke is now built behind the village to ward off the snow. Such danger, however, is past before the bathing season begins. One of the first patrons of the baths was the celebrated Cardinal and

Archbishop of Sion, Matthew Schinner.

The springs, to the number of 10 or 12, rise in and around the village, and nine-tenths of them run off into the Dala torrent without being used. The chief spring of St. Lawrence bursts forth out of the ground between the inn and the bath-house—a rivulet in volume at its source, with a temperature of 124° Fahr. It is used for the baths after being slightly cooled. The other springs vary somewhat in temperature, but little in contents. They contain only a small portion of saline matter, and seem to owe their beneficial effects less to their mineral qualities than to their temperature and the mode of using them. The patient begins with a bath of an hour's duration, but goes on increasing it daily, until at length he remains in the water 8 hours a day—4 before breakfast, and 4 after dinner. The usual *cure time* (kur) is about 3 weeks. The want of the accommodation of private baths, and the necessity of preventing the ennui of such an amphibious existence, if passed in solitude, has led to the practice of bathing in common. The principal bath-house is a large shed divided into 4 compartments or baths, each about 20 ft. square, and capable of holding 15 or 20 persons. To each of these baths there are two entrances, communicating with dressing-rooms, one for the ladies, the other for the gentlemen. Along the partitions dividing the baths runs a slight gallery, into which any one is admitted, either to look on or converse with the bathers below. The stranger will be amazed, on entering, (admission 1 fr.), to perceive a group of some 12 or 15 heads emerging from the water, on the surface of which float wooden tables holding coffeecups, newspapers, snuff-boxes, books, and other aids, to enable the bathers to pass away their allotted hours with as small a trial to their patience as possible. The patients, a motley company, of all ages, both sexes, and various ranks, delicate young ladies, burly friars, invalid officers, and ancient dames, are ranged around the

sides on benches, below the water, all clad in long woollen mantles, with a tippet over their shoulders. It is not a little amusing to a bystander to see people sipping their breakfasts, or reading the newspapers, up to their chins in water—in one corner a party at chess, in another an apparently interesting *tête-à-tête* is going on; while a solitary sitter may be seen reviving in the hot water a nosegay of withered flowers. The temperature of the bath is preserved by a supply of fresh water constantly flowing into it, from which the patients drink at times. Against the walls are hung a set of regulations and sumptuary laws for the preservation of order and decorum in the baths, signed by the burgo-master, who enforces his authority by the threat of a fine of 20 fr. for the highest offence against his code.

“Art. 7. Personne ne peut entrer dans ces bains sans être revêtu d’une chemise longue et ample, d’une étoffe grossière, sous peine de 2 fr. d’amende.”

“Art. 9. La même peine sera encourue par ceux qui n’y entreraient pas, ou n’en sortiraient pas, d’une manière décente.”

Four hours of subaqueous penance are, by the doctor’s decree, succeeded by one hour in bed; and many a fair nymph in extreme *négligé*, with stockingless feet and uncoifed hair, may be encountered crossing the open space between the bath and the hotels. From their condition, one might suppose they had been driven out of doors by an alarm of fire, or some such threatening calamity. The higher patients go away in September, and late in the autumn, when only the poorer patients remain, the sight of the bath is rather disgusting.

a. The principal curiosity of the neighbourhood is the *Ladders* (Leiter). A path through the woods, on the l. or E. side of the Dala, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m., half an hour from the baths, leads to the foot of the precipice, which, as before observed, hems in the valley of Leuk on all sides, as with a colossal wall. Upon the sloping pasturages

about a mile above the summit of this precipice, however, stands a village called *Albinen*; and the only mode by which its inhabitants can communicate directly with the baths is by a series of 8 or 10 ladders placed nearly perpendicularly against the face of the cliff. It can hardly be called difficult to climb to the top, but it would not do for any of weak nerves and a dizzy head, as the ladders, which are pinned to the crevices of the rock by hooked sticks, are often awry, and rather unsteady: yet they are traversed at all seasons, day and night, by the inhabitants of the village above—by children, as well as men and women, often with heavy burdens. The use of the ladders, which the nature of the sides of the valley renders indispensable, has given rise to a singular modification of the dress of the female peasants, which here includes those nether habiliments confined in other parts of the world to men and shrews. Nor are they ashamed of this portion of their attire, as, in climbing the mountains, the petticoat is tucked up, and the wearers do not differ in appearance from boys.

N.B.—There is an easy sloping path from *Albinen* to *Inden*.

b. A day may be well devoted to the ascent of the *Torrent-horn*, a mountain rising E. of Leuk baths, if the weather be clear. Mules can reach the summit (9760 ft. above the sea) in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours (10 fr. and *bonne-main*). It commands a wonderfully fine panorama of the Alps—an unbroken series of peaks from Mont Blanc to the Simplon; with the Altels, Gspalthorn, and Blumlis Alp on the N. The Gemmi road lies deep below, and its summit is seen through a gap in the chain. The ridge ends in a frightful precipice surrounded by isolated rocks, whose sides are equally vertical. Pedestrians will require a guide to find the path up. The first 1200 ft. and the last 700 are a steep climb. Descent in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

The rocky pass, called *Felsen Gallerie*, on the opposite side of the Dala, on the way to *Siders*, is a very striking scene. (See below.)

Mules are kept at the baths, under the direction of a commissaire, to transport travellers: the prices are fixed by a printed tariff. (§ 10.)

There are two ways from the baths of Leuk to the valley of the Rhone.

a. The carriage-road from the Baths to the Simplon road follows the course of the *Dala* torrent through one of the finest gorges in Switzerland; and the new road is, for its length, one of the finest roads, descending by numerous zigzags, and crossing the river by a solid and lofty bridge, 420 ft. above the torrent, opposite Albinen, and conducts, in about $8\frac{1}{2}$ m. ($2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. walk), to Leuk. Toll $3\frac{1}{2}$ fr. for a small carriage. A slow omnibus goes daily from the Baths, once in winter (?), twice in summer, to Leuk and Sion.

Leuk (*Inns*: Kreutz; Stern, not good), a village of 620 Inhab., traversed by a narrow dirty street, on the rt. bank of the Rhone, near its junction with the *Dala*. A covered bridge over the Rhone connects it with the Simplon road (Rte. 59). Above it are ruins of two castles, destroyed by the Valaisans in 1414.

b. The other way, a mule-path carried along the W. side of the valley of the *Dala*, but high above that river, conducts at once to the town of Sierre (Siders), 12 m. distant, and is a short cut for those who wish to descend the valley of the Rhone towards Martigny and Geneva. It traverses the high pasturages, and beyond them a forest of larch; and passes the village of Inden, near which a most extensive view is gained over the valley of the Rhone, its towns, villages, farms, and old castles. The unsightly débris brought down by the furious torrents issuing from the opposite valley, and the wide expanse of bare gravel overflowed by the Rhone in spring, and converted into a river-channel—but in summer left bare and arid—give a desolate character to the scene.

Between Inden (where is a toll of 1 fr. per mule) and a village called Varen the road makes an abrupt turn, and the traveller finds himself beneath the shadow of a tremendous overhanging precipice, forming the corner of the Lööche valley. The effect of approaching it from the side of Sierre is grand in the extreme, and totally unexpected, after turning a corner of the rock. The path is carried along a narrow ledge in front of the cliff; beneath it is a gaping abyss, extending nearly down to the bed of the *Dala*, and above, the rocks lean so far forward that stones falling from their tops would descend upon the road, and it is therefore partly protected by a roof. This spot is called the *Gallerie*, and was the scene of a bloody combat in 1799, when the Valaisans defended this spot for several weeks against the French, effectually checking all attempts to pass, by rolling down stones and logs from above.

A rough and steep descent leads from this, in about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour, to

Sierre, upon the Simplon road (Rte. 59).

ROUTE 38.

TURTMAN AND KIPPEL TO KANDERSTEG,
BY THE LÖTSCH PASS.

This pass between the Valais and the canton Berne was formerly in much use, and remains of the mule-path, which was then carried across the entire way, are still to be seen. Since the construction of the Gemmi road more than a century ago, this has been let to fall into decay, and the extension of the glaciers, which

seems to have been universal in this part of the Alpine chain, has destroyed part of the old route. The pass is not difficult in good weather, but it is better suited for a mountaineer than an ordinary tourist. It may be accomplished in 8 hrs. good walking, so that a traveller wishing to avoid the indifferent accommodation at Kippel may start from, or arrive at, Tourtemagne (Rte. 59) in the same day.

The Lötschthal has been neglected by Alpine travellers till lately, and no inn has yet been opened, but it abounds in fine scenery and leads to several interesting passes (Rtes. 35, 60). Mines of argentiferous galena are worked in it. It is approached from Tourtemagne on the Simplon road.

2 miles above Tourtemagne a bridge over the Rhone leads in 1 min. to the village of Gampel (*Inn*, homely), at the mouth of the narrow and steep valley of the Lötschthal, rising, not in terraces, but with a rapid and continuous ascent. After Gampel a steep ascent up the l. bank of the Lonza succeeds (now mastered by a good road), commanding fine views over the Rhone. The path next enters a gorge. About an hour from Gampel there is a fall, not visible from the road, of no great height, but a large volume of water. Beyond the (4 m.) chapel of Koppigstein, which is constantly swept away by avalanches, you (1 m.) cross the Lonza to its rt. bank. A group of cottages soon appears in a lovely scene of meadow, wood, and rock, overhung by superb peaks, after which the character of the valley is more cheerful as far as

1½ m. *Ferden* (*Inn*, homely), where it turns sharply to the east. At the angle, the view along both branches of the valley is superb; the upper portion is wider and longer than that which has been passed, extending to the great Lötschgletscher, a branch of the sea of ice around the Jungfrau, overhung by the Lauterbrunn Breithorn on one side, and the Schienhorn, an offset of the Aletschhorn, on the other; while on the S. the Nesthorn and other very lofty

mountains rise steeply in icy peaks. The curé's house at

Kippel, 15 min. from *Ferden*, affords poor accommodation for sleeping, but has hitherto been the usual lodging of visitors to this valley. Joseph Appener is a good guide. The curé was an active mountaineer, but is now an old man. Few or none of the people can speak anything but their own German patois. It is said that equally good accommodation can be obtained 1½ hr. (4 miles) higher up, at

Platten, which is reached through magnificent larch woods, after which, on ascending to the *Loetschberg* there is about 2½ hrs. over pastures, bare stony slopes, and beds of snow, to the Col (8796 ft.), overhung by the grand precipices of the Balm-horn, which forms the eastern end of the Altels group. ["By giving 2 or 3 hrs. more to the excursion, a high peak to the E., called the *Hoch-horn*, may be ascended. Our guide did not suggest it till we had nearly reached the Col, from which it is 1½ hr., chiefly over ice. Some fearfully steep slopes are to be crossed, from which the eye plunges down right into the Gasterenthal, 5000 to 6000 ft. beneath. A singular and most striking scene occurs in passing round an insulated steeple of rock, rising out of the ice, with a pool of clear blue water at its foot. Between it and the peak lies a narrow isthmus of ice, sloping steeply down on either side; after passing this, the icy shoulder of the mountain is to be wound round, with empty space on two sides; and then the last ascent, up a sharp pile of stones, takes 15 min. The view is superb. To the S. and S.W. Monte Rosa, the Matterhorn, and Mont Blanc towering far above nearer mountains, are the leading objects. To the E. the Tschingel-horn and other points of the chain on which we stood, extending to the Jungfrau and the Aletschhörner. To the W. a sea of lower mountains towards the Simmenthal, and an extensive view over the Bernese lowlands. Retracing our course for a good way, we then descended over bare rocks and beds of

snow to the lower part of the Balmgletscher, and reached in a short 2 hrs. from the Hochhorn the point where the direct route across the Lötschberg quits the glacier, after lying across it probably for $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 m. Thence there is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr. of very steep descent into the Gasterenthal. The river is to be crossed by a bridge, which must not be missed: thence to Kandersteg, about 2 hrs."—*E. W.*]

Even without making the excursion to the Hochhorn, the view from the summit of the pass is extremely fine, decidedly superior to that from the Gemmi, or any of the passes over the chain to the E of it. In descending into the Gasterenthal there are some long slopes of snow, giving opportunity for a *glissade*; when the glacier is reached, which now covers over the old track, it is advisable to keep to its l. hand or W. side, nearest to the rocks of the Altels, which towers over the valley. After nearly an hour's descent over the glacier the track emerges into the Gasterenthal near to the châteaux of Im Selden (Rte. 35). The view of the surrounding peaks and the Kander glacier descending from the high plateau at its upper extremity is magnificent (see Rte. 35). The lower end of the Gasterenthal is crowded with huge blocks, some of them probably brought down by avalanches, while others have been transported by ice from the peaks at the head of the valley. In 2 hrs. the traveller reaches Kandersteg (Rte. 37).

ROUTE 39.

PASS OF THE RAWYL.—THUN, OR INTERLAKEN, TO SION OR SIERRE.—THE GRIMMI.

The pass of the Rawyl begins at An der Lenk, at the N. foot of the pass, a good halting-place, about 36 m. from Thun; diligence twice a day from Thun to Zweisimmen, thence 3 hrs. walk to An der Lenk; thence to Sion, over the mountain, is fully 10 hrs., or to Sierre 11 hrs. It is traversed sometimes on horseback, but is better calculated for the pedestrian. From Sion to the top of the pass there is a good mule-path, recently much improved. Nothing but a little milk is to be had between An der Lenk and Sion, therefore provisions ought to be taken. The scenery on both sides of the pass resembles that on the S. side of the Gemmi.

The village of An der Lenk may be reached from the lake of Thun, by following the Simmenthal, along which there is a good char-road, or by the Diemtigen Thal and the pass of the Grimmi, a route accessible only to pedestrians; or, thirdly, by Frutigen, the Engstligen Thal, and Adelboden. The scenery by the Diemtigen Thal is inferior; and there is little saving of time. In going from Interlaken the way by the Engstligen Thal is decidedly shorter for pedestrians.

a. The road up the *Simmenthal* is described (Rte. 42) as far as Zweisimmen. Thence the char-road is continued, bearing to the l. up the Ober Simmenthal, about 10 m., to An der Lenk.

b. The route by the *Diemtigen Thal* leaves the Simmenthal at Lattenbach 10 m. from Thun. A path there strikes off up the Diemtigen Thal, crosses the stream of the Chivel, and follows its l. bank through Diemtigen and Narrenbach, then recrosses it to

Thiermatten, where there is an inn, about 4 hrs. from Lattenbach, or $4\frac{1}{2}$ from Wimmis, from whence a path

mounts the valley by the rt. bank. About a mile beyond this it again passes the stream, and, leaving it on the l., gradually ascends to the pass of the *Grimmi* (5580 ft.), 3 hrs. from Thiermatten. Descending through the *Fermel Thal* (a fertile valley, only 6 m. long), it reaches

Matten, in the Upper Simmenthal, on the char-road leading from Zweisimmen to An der Lenk, 4 m.

c. The route by the Engstligen Thal quits the road of the Gemmi at Frutigen (Rte. 37), where the torrent from that valley joins the Kander (5½ hrs. from Interlaken). From Frutigen it is a walk of 4½ hrs. to *Adelboden*, where there is a small *Inn* near the church. A pedestrian in good training who has started early from Interlaken, may reach An der Lenk in the same day by the low pass of the *Hahnenmoos*, 3 hrs. walk to

An der Lenk—*Inns*: Bad-Hohliebe, excellent, landlord speaks English: Bär; Stern; Krone, clean and reasonable, attentive host; beautifully situated near the base of the *Wildstrubel* (10,716 Eng. ft.) Strong sulphureous springs, temp. 48° F., much used by the Swiss, 3309 ft. above sea.

The Simmen rises about 6 m. above An der Lenk, at the foot of the glacier of Rüzliberg, from a source called the Seven Fountains. In the source itself there is little to compensate for the trouble of the ascent to it, but the scenery around it is of great grandeur. Between it and An der Lenk the Simmen forms several cascades. There is a char-road for about 3 m. from An der Lenk towards the Sieben Brunnen. An interesting account of glacier excursions about An der Lenk, including two ascents of the *Wildstrubel*, and a passage over the glaciers between this and the Gemmi pass, has been given by Mr. Hinchliff in 'Peaks, Passes, and Glaciers.'

The path to Sion, is passable for a char for about 3 m. Instead of proceeding towards the source of the Simmen, it ascends the l. bank of its tributary, the *Iffigenbach*; and the gorge of that torrent, flanked by vast precipices, is in places very grand.

The solitary traveller should beware of losing time by crossing a tempting bridge about halfway to Iffigen, a little below a very picturesque waterfall.

Iffigen, a group of farm-houses, one of which is a tolerable *Inn*, at the N. base of the Rawyl, near which the *Iffigenbach* makes a very fine fall, is a good 2 hrs. walk from Lenk. Another 2½ hrs. will bring you to the cross on the summit by proceeding steadily.

A series of zigzags mounts the steep side of the mountain above Iffigen. The path has been excellently constructed over this part of the pass, and workmen are constantly employed in keeping it in repair. The small cascades that used to fall on the path from the rock above, have been diverted, and the way throughout is so broad that the most timid person need not fear any uneasiness. From the brow of the precipice, looking N., a fine view expands over the valley of An der Lenk, and the mountains of the Simmenthal covered with fine pastures and farmhouses. Crossing a bed of snow, the path leads up to

The summit of the pass of the *Rawyl*, marked by a cross (7960 ft.). The summit is probably 2 m. broad, covered with loose shattered fragments of slate, and almost utterly bare of vegetation. When clouds lie on the pass, a stranger cannot trace the path over the stones, which is tedious from the number of gullies, and the alternately crumbling and slippery nature of the soil, consisting of clay-slate, which gradually changes into clay. A small lake is reached before the traveller gains the brow of the S. declivity of the mountain, consisting of precipices similar to those on the side of Berne. The view hence of the mountains on the S. side of the vale of the Rhone, especially of the Matterhorn and its glaciers, is sublime. A zigzag path conducts down the cliffs to the *châlets* of Rawin in 1 hr. 15 min. The descent is good, the path having been recently reconstructed. Close to these *châlets* two large bodies of water burst, one on either hand from the cliffs, forming

fine falls. That on the rt. has an uncommonly fine and singular appearance, bursting out of a black cleft in the face of a broad and precipitous rock, in 5 or 6 distinct columns, and afterwards forming a fine wild tumble of foaming water. Though apparently clear when issuing from the rock, it has no sooner touched the ground than it becomes a river of liquid mud, a large portion of which is a short way below separated from the torrent, and conducted very ingeniously along the face of the mountain, and at one part against a perpendicular cliff, till, after a course of several miles, it fertilises the meadows near Ayent.

Two paths branch off at the chalets of *Rawin*; the one leading in $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. to *Sierre*; the other, on the rt. bank of the stream, through *Ayent* to *Sion* in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. The walk from the chalets of *Rawin* to *Sierre* is very fatiguing, owing to the frequent ascents and descents. For nearly half an hour from *Rawin*, the rt.-hand path runs nearly on a level: it next rises for some distance to turn a rocky barrier, and then descends on *Ayent*. Foot passengers can avoid this ascent by following the bank of the water-course before mentioned, which saves nearly an hour. The most dangerous part takes 10 min. or $\frac{1}{4}$ hr. to traverse. The only way of passing is along trees supported on cross bars against the face of the precipitous rocks at a considerable height above the stream. The scene here is very grand. The rock hangs over on the rt. side, and on the l. recedes beneath to a depth of 1000 ft. The trees are placed singly above the bed of the watercourse, and are not more than a few inches wide, and not very firmly secured, which increases the danger. This track should not be attempted by persons in the least liable to giddiness or nervousness.

The other and longer road is practicable for mules from *Sion* up to the top of the pass. For some distance it lies amidst forests of fir. It unites with the footpath before reaching

Ayent (accommodation at the *cure's*),

about 3 hrs. walk from the summit, passing the hamlet of *Grimseln*.

Sion (Rte. 56), in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr.

At *Sion*, experienced guides and mules may be obtained for the ascent of the *Rawyl*, called *Ravoué* in the patois of the *Valais*.

ROUTE 40.

LENK TO LAUENEN, BY THE TRÜTTLISBERG.—LAUENEN TO GSTEIG, BY THE CHRINEN.

This is a mule-road of $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., and does not require a guide. Beyond the church of *An der Lenk*, the path, after traversing meadows and groves and pastoral scenery with the magnificent glaciers of the *Wildstrübel* and the *Wildhorn* in sight, begins to ascend on the N. side of the valley to the *Ober Staffel*, a plain which is reached in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. An hour more brings the traveller to the pass of *Trüttlisberg* (about 5900 ft.), between the *Dauben* and the *Stublen*. A steep descent leads in $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr. to

Lauenen (*Inn*: *Bär*, rough, but not uncomfortable), whence in 2 hrs. over the *Chrinen* (5000 ft.). [*Saenen* may be reached in 2 hrs. from *Lauenen* (Rte. 42) by a good char-road through very pleasing scenery.]

Gsteig. *Inn*: *Hirsch*, dear and dirty, but not so bad as it looks. (Rte. 41.)

ROUTE 41.

PASS OF THE SANETSCH (IN FRENCH SENIN).—SAANEN TO SION.

About 12 hrs.

This is a long, steep, and tedious horse-pass, but not dangerous except in very bad weather. The village of Saanen (or Gessonay), and the road between it and Thun, are described in Rte. 42. Char-road from Saanen to Gsteig, about 11 m.

At *Staad* the path turns S. by the valley of the *Saane*, the upper end of which is called Gestig-Thal, to

Gsteig (Châtelet in French), (*Inn* tolerable), the highest village in it, situated close under the lofty and precipitous Mittaghorn, and near the foot of the Sanetsch, the most westerly of the passes over the Bernese chain.

[From Gsteig there is an easy pass by the *Col de Pillon* (5150 ft.), which leads to the new Hôtel des Diablerets (Rte. 43), and to Les Iles in the Val d'Ormond dessus, whence there is a beautiful path to Bex by the Col de la Croix, and a char-road by Sepey to Aigle and the lower Valais.]

It is advisable to sleep at Gsteig, from which Sion is distant 10 easy hrs., or 8 hrs. hard walking. The pass rises from this place in a very precipitous manner, and often resembles the pass of the Gemmi. $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. above Gsteig the Saane makes a beautiful *fall*, clearing the face of the rock by at least 100 ft. In the evening it is crowned by an iris. The path continues by the side of the Saane up to its source. Lovely view looking back on Gsteig. After a climb of

2 hrs. a grassy plain is entered, which is surrounded with abrupt rocky mountains, and which leads by a gentle ascent of an hr. to

The *summit*, 7365 ft. above the sea-level, a wild, rocky, solitary plain 3 or 4 m. long, called *Kreutzboden*, barely relieved by a few patches of vegetation. To the W. the *Sans Fleuron* glacier descends from the *Oldenhorn* (ascended in 1857 by Mr Hinchliff and Mr. Bradshaw Smith), near to the summit the *Kreutzboden*. The pass is not a grand one, but the mountains of the great chain of the Alps are finely seen, from Mt. Velan and Mt. Combin to the Dent d'Erin and the Dent Blanche, in the neighbourhood of the Matterhorn. But neither that remarkable peak nor any part of the Weisshorn, Rothhorn, or Monte Rosa, are visible. The whole of the straight, steep Val d'Erin from the Valais, and the glacier of Ferpèche, are seen directly in front. On the other side the descent is steep but grassy all the way down to the pine forests, through which the road to Sion is tedious, but not unpleasing.

2 m. from the summit the *Morge* river is crossed, and after 4 m. of bad winding road, passing a châtelet, is again crossed by the Pont Neuf, a substantial stone foot-bridge 200 ft. above the black stream. "There is a very pleasing yet grand view from this point. The black slate rocks rise on the E. to a height of about 2500 ft. Portions of rock have been detached and stand upright from the valley, each the height of a small mountain. The hill on the W. is covered with fir-trees. A white horizontal line will be observed on the face of the slate mountain (rt.); this is the wall of a water-course constructed at the sole expense of a farmer's wife to supply her native village with water for irrigation, of which she had felt the want in her lifetime, and for which she left the whole of her fortune at her death." The descent continues for about 5 m. through the ravine of the Morge. Near its mouth is a ruined castle, and fine view over the valley of the Rhone, the Matterhorn, &c. The only village,

Chandolin (humble *Inn*, good wine) is the first place from Gsteig where refreshments can be procured. Here

and at Saviese are many narrow lanes, through which the way is intricate to find. Fine view, as you descend, of the 3 castles of

Sion (Rte. 56). (Time from *Sion*: walking to Chandolin $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr.; to summit of pass, 4 hrs.; to Gsteig, $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.)

ROUTE 42.

THUN TO VEVAY, BY THE SIMMENTHAL; SAANEN, CHÂTEAU D'OEX, AND GRUYÈRES:—PASS OF THE DENT DE JAMAN.

$26\frac{1}{2}$ leagues = 79 Eng. m.

	Leagues.	Eng. m.
Thun		
Weissenburg . .	$4\frac{1}{2}$	= 14
Zweisimmen . .	$3\frac{1}{2}$	= 11
Saanen (Gessenay) .	$2\frac{7}{8}$	= 9
Château d'Oex . .	$2\frac{3}{8}$	= 7
Montbovon . . .	3	= 7
Bulle	$3\frac{3}{8}$	= 10
Vevay	$6\frac{1}{2}$	= 19
	<hr/> 26 $\frac{1}{2}$	<hr/> 79

An excellent carriage-road has been made through the Simmenthal, but it has lately fallen into disuse owing to the rly. communication by Berne. The inns and the means of travelling are not good. The valley abounds in rich cultivation, fields, orchards, and garden meadows reaching to the tops of the hills, with houses and villages lying along the banks of the river, varied with fir forests, rocky gorges and open basins, entirely of a pastoral character.

A diligence with 9 seats starts every morning from Thun, and reaches Saanen (Fr. Gessenay) in 9 hrs. A

lighter vehicle with 6 places only leaves Saanen in the morning, and reaches Vevay in about 10 hrs. Those who can walk or ride will prefer to reach Vevay from Château d'Oex, or Montbovon, by the Dent de Jaman.

6 m. The entrance to the Simmenthal lies between the Stockhorn on the rt. and the Niesen on the l., and is approached from Thun by the road along the margin of the lake (see Rte. 37), and the banks of the Kander, as far as its junction with the Simmen, a little below the picturesque castle of Wimmis, which our road passes on the l. Brothäusli is about 1 m. from Wimmis, at foot of Niesen. *Inn*, Hirsch.

About $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. farther is *Erlenbach* (*Inn*, Krone). From this parsonage Latrobe started on those Alpine expeditions which he has described in so admirable and interesting a manner in his *Alpenstock* (an excellent English guide with a foreign name). The Stockhorn (3 hrs. ascent) rises almost immediately behind the village of Erlenbach.

$4\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Weissenburg* [has a rough country *Inn* (Post), where mules may be hired, and chairs with bearers, to convey persons who do not choose to walk, to the *Sulphur Baths of Weissenburg*, between 2 and 3 m. from this. There is an ascent immediately on leaving the village, but after that the path winds through a beautiful and picturesque defile, narrowing at every step into a profound chasm, till suddenly the Old Bath-house, singularly situated in its recesses, bursts upon the view. This large building is placed in a little nook between the boiling torrent Buntschi and the rocks, leaving barely space sufficient for the house and baths. This building is now almost exclusively occupied by peasants, as a large new hotel and bath-house of a superior class has lately been opened. This is said to be very well kept by an attentive landlord, and the charges are reasonable. The scenery around is highly picturesque, but inaccessible to all but stout climbers, except along the road to Weissenburg. The waters are said to contain magnesia, soda, and iron, and are considered efficacious

in removing internal obstructions. The source is situated about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. higher up in the gorge, and the water, which has a temperature of above 82° Fahr. conveyed to the baths in wooden pipes carried along the face of the precipice. Some way up the ravine the peasants have formed a pathway out of it to the upper pastures, by cutting notches or rude steps in the face of the rock, and partly by attaching ladders to it. By this means they scale a dizzy precipice between 200 and 300 ft. high. The pedestrian bound for the upper Simmenthal need not retrace his steps to Weissenburg, as there is a short cut direct from the baths to Oberwyl, on the high road.]

$\frac{4}{5}$ m. *Boltingen* (*Inn*: Bär; trout-fishing here), a village situated 2600 ft. above the sea, a little to the S. of the old castle of Simmeneck. The ruined castle of Laubeck overlooks the road, which is now carried round the eminence, avoiding a steep ascent. The gorge of *Laubeck* is a scene of grandeur. Near Reidenbach there are coal-mines. [Two paths lead from Reidenbach to Bulle, each in about 8 hrs. One over the *Klus* is steeper and more mountainous; the other, by *Bädermoos*, through lower country, with pastoral scenery alternating with pine forests. Either path leads down the valley of the Jaun and shortens the journey to Bulle by about 4 leagues.] The river is crossed 3 times before reaching

$\frac{6}{12}$ m. *Zweisimmen*, a village of 1200 Inhab., composed of old brown and red wooden houses (no good *Inn*: Lion; Krone), situated at the junction of the great and lesser Simmen. The *Castle of Blankenburg* crowns the height about a mile above it. Until the democratic revolutions in canton Berne, it was the residence of the landvogt, who now occupies his own humble farm-house beside it. It is still the seat of the government, and the prison. [A char-road l. runs hence past (3 m.) St. Stephan (*Inn*: Alter Schweitzer), to ($2\frac{1}{2}$ m.) Matten and ($3\frac{1}{4}$ m.) An der Lenk (see Rte. 39).]

The road to Bulle and Vevay now quits the Simmenthal by a very steep

ascent, through beautiful scenery, in which rugged peaks of limestone are interspersed with grand forests of pine, and, turning to the S.W., crosses an elevated tract of pasture-land called the Saanen-Moser, till it descends upon

9 m. *Saanen* (Fr. *Gessonay*)—(*Inns*: Grosslandhaus; H. de Kranich; l'Ours), the principal place in the pastoral valley of the upper Saane (Sarine), whose inhabitants are almost exclusively cattle-owners, or occupied in their dairies, and in manufacturing excellent cheese, exported to all parts of the world as Gruyères cheese. A kind peculiar to the valley, too delicate to bear exportation, is called Fötschhari-käse. [The ascent of the Sanetsch Pass (Rte. 41) is made from this. There is also a pleasant footpath leading to Gruyère over Grubenberg in $2\frac{3}{4}$ hrs.; then by Ablatsehen $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr.; then by Jaun $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. (Bellegarde in French), *Inn*, clean. And lastly down the valley of the Jaun.

The road beyond this is hilly. A little below Saanen we pass out of Berne into canton Vaud. German, the language of the upper extremity of the valley, is soon exchanged for a French patois, in the lower portion, which is called Pays d'en haut Romand. The first Vaudois village, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m., is Rougemont (Germ. Rothberg)—(*Inn*: Kreutz). Its château was formerly a convent.

$\frac{4}{4}$ m. *Château d'Oex* (Oesch)—(*Inns*: L'Ours; Maison de Ville)—a village of 612 Inhab., 3030 ft. above the sea, rebuilt after a conflagration which almost entirely consumed it. The château, after which it is named, is replaced by a church on the height where once it stood. The road next crosses the Saane to $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Moulins*. [Hence a path strikes off leading into the Val des Ormonds (Rte. 43) by the Monette, and also into that over the Dent de Jaman.] At $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. a turn to the l. leads across the river, passing to *Rossinière*, the Pension kept by Mr. Henscholz. It is highly praised; charge for bed and board, 4 fr. 50 c. a day. The pass of the Tine between very grand rocks and pines leads to

4 m. *Montbovon*—(Bubenberg. *Inn*: Dent de Jaman, fair, clean, and civil)—which Byron calls “a pretty scraggy village, with a wild river and a wooden bridge:” it is situated in canton Freyburg. A few horses are kept here for hire. It is better to order them from Vevay the day before.

[A horse-path over the highly interesting *Pass of Dent de Jaman* (Jommen Pass), 4890 ft. above the sea-level, descending upon the Lake of Geneva above Montreux, will bring the traveller to Vevay, a walk of 5 hrs. After reaching the Col. and descending about $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. the path divides, the rt. leading to Vevay, the l. to Montreux. Guide needless. Byron, who crossed this path, describes the whole route as “beautiful as a dream.” “The view from the highest points (we had both sides of the Jura before us in one point of view, with alps in plenty) comprises, on one side, the greatest part of Lake Lemane; on the other, the valleys and mountain of the canton of Freiburg, and an immense plain, with the lakes of Neuchâtel and Morat and all which the borders of the Lake of Geneva inherit. The music of the cow’s bells (for their wealth, like the patriarch’s, is cattle) in the pastures, which reach to a height far above any mountains in Britain, and the shepherds shouting to us from crag to crag, and playing on their reeds, where the steeps appeared almost inaccessible, with the surrounding scenery, realized all that I have ever heard or imagined of a pastoral existence—much more so than Greece or Asia Minor, for there we have a little too much of the sabre and musket order, and if there is a crook in one hand, you are sure to see a gun in the other; but this was pure and unmixed—solitary, savage, and patriarchal. As we went they played the ‘Ranz de Vaches’ and other airs by way of farewell. I have lately re-peopled my mind with nature.” —*Byron’s Journal*.

The view from the Col commands great part of the lake, but to see the

Oberland range you must climb the *Dent* itself, 2 hrs. from the Col. From Vevay to the Col is 4 hrs. walk.]

The carriage-road from Montbovon to Vevay makes a very long détour: descending the valley of the Saane, and circling around the base of the *Molésan* (6181 ft.), the highest mountain in canton Freyburg, it passes under the hills crowned by the castle and town of

7 m. *Gruyères* (German, Greyerz)—*Inns*: not good. This dirty little mouldering town of 375 Inhab. is extremely picturesque from its position on the face of a hill, the top of which is crowned by the *Castle*, very commanding from its situation, and well preserved. Its owners, the Counts of Gruyères, were sovereigns of the surrounding district down to 1554, when the family became bankrupt, and the creditors seized and sold the lordship to Berne, so that the last descendant died in a strange land. The castle has been sold to M. Rory, who has repaired it with taste. The gloomy antiquity of the interior corresponds with the character of its watch-towers, battlements, and loop-holes as seen from without. The walls are 14 ft. thick, the halls vaulted and dimly lighted by small windows: in one is a fireplace at which oxen were roasted whole. The *torture* chamber at the top of the stairs contained the rack, which had been used within the present century to inflict punishment. The *Ch. of St. Théodule* (1254) contains a monument with marble effigies of a Count of Gruyères, in singular costume. The inhabitants of the town are a lazy set, many of them pensioners of a very rich *Hospital* here.

The language spoken by the people of the district, a dialect of the Romansch (called, in German, *Gruverin-Welsch*), is thought to prove their descent from the Burgundians. It is a subject worthy the attention of travellers. The district is also famous for its *cheeses*, and supplies from its rich pastures a great part of the 40,000 centners (cwt.) of cheese which

canton Freyburg manufactures yearly, and which is chiefly exported under the name of Gruyère.

The watch-tower of La Tour de Treme was an outpost of the Counts of Gruyères.

3 m. *Bulle* (Boll)—(*Inns*: Cheval Blanc; Maison de Ville)—one of the most industrious towns in the canton. It contains 2000 Inhab., and is the chief dépôt for the Gruyère cheese made in the valleys of the Saarine and of Charmey, and in the elevated plateau of which it is the centre. It is 2300 ft. above the level of the sea; and if the ages inscribed on the tombstones form any test, it must be one of the healthiest places in the world. There is a curious old chateau, but the town is modern, having been burnt in 1805. The *bise* or N.E. wind blows keenly over the plateau. It is distant about 18 m. from Freyburg, and the same from Vevay. A diligence daily to Romont Stat. on the Rly. from Freyburg to Vevay.

[From Bulle or Gruyères may be made the ascent of the *Molésou* (6181 ft.), commanding a magnificent view.]

Our course now turns S. along the high road between these two places, skirting the W. base of the *Molésou* to

11 m. *Chatel St. Denis* (Kastels)—(*Inn*: Maison de Ville)—a picturesque village with an elevated castle on the l. bank of the *Veveyse*. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of it the road enters canton Vaud.

An excellent road, admirably engineered, carried by an easy descent in zigzags down the steep hill towards the beautiful lake Lemman, conducts the traveller to

8 m. *Vevay* (Rte. 55). The view from this road is nearly as fine as from the *Jaman*, so that you have no reason to regret the enormous bends which it makes, though they lengthen the journey by several miles.

[A secluded route leads from Thun to Gruyère as follows: 2½ hrs. *Watterwyl*, 2 hrs. *Gurnigel*, 2½ hrs. *Schwefelbad*, 4 hrs. *Schwarz See* or *Lake of Omeinaz*, 2½ hrs. *Valsainte*, 3 hrs. *Gruyère*.

The Baths of *Gurnigel* (3782 ft.) are much frequented by the Bernese. The

country is high and wooded. *Schweffelbad*, or Bath of *Ganterist*, is a decaying establishment in a treeless country. The lake of *Omeinaz* (3464 ft.) is deservedly called the *Schwarz See*. Hospitable quarters at a neglected bathing establishment on its W. shore. The surrounding landscape is charming. The *Valsainte* is a monastery in a smiling valley.]

ROUTE 43.

CHÂTEAU D'OEX TO AIGLE OR BEX, BY
THE VALLEY DES ORMONDS.

A bridle-path (carriage-road in progress) diverges to the l. from the high road (Rte. 42) at *Moulins*, near *Château d'Oex*, and leads in 5 hrs. by *Combailaz* to *Sepey*, whence there is a good carriage-road, by a long incline of 6½ m., to *Aigle*.

The bridle-path mounts steeply for $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. Thenceforward it is a char-road, and pretty level. In 1½ m. our path turns off to the rt., and immediately crosses a stream by a bridge. [The road that is quitted leads through the *V. d'Etivaz*, whence easy mountain-paths lead into the *Ormond Dessus*.] Hence 1½ m. by *Lecherette*, a scattered village on the rt. (where milk and wine can be had). It is skirted, not passed through. In $\frac{1}{2}$ m. another stream is crossed; then 1 m. to *Les Mosses*, a straggling village on elevated meadows. [The elevated *Lac Lioson* is well worth a visit. Turning to the l. from *Les Mosses*, it may be reached in 1 hr. Ascend from it in $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. the *Chaussé* (7996 ft.); for the sake of its grand view over the *Diablerets*, *Dent du Midi*, and *Lac Lemman*. Hence by a new road, and amidst pine-forests, rushing cascades,

valleys, and mountains, the traveller arrives at Sepey through the picturesque valley of Les Ormonds.] In $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. the road forks (the l. hand branch crosses the stream, and takes in $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. to Plans des Isles [see below]); our way is to the rt., and leads in $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to Comballaz. A rustic but comfortable *Inn* and *Pension* (5000 ft.) (charge 5 fr. a day), much frequented in summer for its mountain air and sulphureous mineral spring of some celebrity. It is seldom free from snow before the end of June. There is not much view from the place, though many pretty excursions.

2 m. *Sepey* (*Inns*: l'Étoile (fair), is one of 3 pensions of a homely kind, moderate in their charges, as well as in accommodation, frequented by Swiss, who resort to them from June to the end of August). It is a primitive town. The houses are entirely composed of wood; most of them are carved, and covered with verses and texts from the Bible.

The pasturages in this valley are celebrated, and the cheese, cream, and butter of Les Ormonds ("Ormond Dessus" above Sepey, and "Dessous" below it) equal any in the canton.

Sepey may also be conveniently reached from Rte. 42 by turning off at Sarnen, and taking a char to Gsteig (in French, Châtelet), $8\frac{1}{2}$ m. Thence a bridle-path over the *Col de Pillon* to a level tract in the valley of the *Ormond Dessus* ($3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.), called *Plan des Isles*, where there is a very favourite *Pension* and *Hotel*, H. des Diablerets. Here the char-road begins. It is bad at first, but improves towards Sepey. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Vers l'Eglise* (*Pension* and *Inn*: Cerf, small but fair), thence 6 m. to Sepey.

Another way of reaching Sepey is to start as above, but to leave the char-road at *Feutersonoy*, 6 m. from Gsteig, and $\frac{3}{4}$ m. after the bridge over the stream; thence to turn rt. up the valley, and make for the (4 m.) *Lake of Arnen* (5072 ft.). Food may be had at the chalets by its side, but the people are extortionate. The lake is beautifully placed within wooded slopes and rocky shores. Thence the

pedestrian may find his way for himself over the hills to the Plan des Isles, which lies (4 m. in a direct line) S.W.

The head of the valley of the Ormond Dessus is S. of the road over the *Col de Pillon*. It is surrounded by a precipitous range of limestone-rocks, shaped like a horseshoe; not unlike the Cirque of Gavarnie, in the Pyrenees, over which dash 5 or 6 waterfalls, while behind rise the snow and peaks of the Diablerets. This scene is well worth a visit. [By the *Col de la Croix* the traveller may descend by Rly. to Bex, a stat. on the Rhone Rly.]

Aigle, $6\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Sepey. The descent is made in any kind of carriage in 1 hr., the ascent in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., by a road remarkable for its beauty of construction. It was commenced by the Vaudois Government in 1836, with the intention of connecting the Simplon with Thun, Interlaken, and the German cantons at Château d'Oex, but, owing to the enormous expense attending its formation, and the continual needful repairs, from snow and other causes, it has not been continued farther than Sepey. The road is wide, and its gradual and easy ascent around the sides of a seemingly impracticable mountain, to a height of nearly 3000 ft., reflects high credit on the engineer who superintended the work, M. Pichard, a Vaudois. At the bottom of the valley, beneath the feet of the traveller, rushes the Grande Eau in a continual series of torrents and cascades. In the distance, near Aigle, the snowy tops of the Dent du Midi glisten in contrast to the dark forests of the Ormonds; and the Dent du Chamossaire, to the N., rears its grey peak above the pasturages and chalets that are everywhere scattered on the mountain-sides.

Aigle (*Inns*: a new inn close to the station; Victoria, very good), a stat. on the Simplon Rly., is the best starting-point for exploring the Valley des Ormonds. There are numerous paths among these mountains by which the route may be varied.

Half a day may be spent in a very

pleasant trip from Sepey to Bex or Ollon, by crossing the Grande Eau on the bridge 1 m. below Sepey, to the S.E., ascending the opposite slopes to the Forclaz, then to a pleasant cascade and the *Lake des Chavannes* (5876 ft.), $2\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. (this little sheet of water is near 2 others of less note), and by fine forests. The chalets of Bretaye, immediately above it, afford cream and milk. The top of the Pointe de Chamossaire (6900 ft.) is well worth ascent, for its fine panorama. $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. descent from Bretaye leads to Chésières (4000 ft.), a village, where the chalet of the brothers Amiguet is always crowded by visitors, as well as the neighbouring *Chalet Villard*, in the face of the finest Alps of Savoy. 2 hrs. from Chésières will lead down to Bex.

Bernese Alps and mountains of the Simmenthal appear.

Bümplatz Stat. The Sense, which divides canton Berne from Freyburg, and comes from Schwefelbad and Omeinaz Lake (Rte. 42), is crossed.

Flamatt Stat.

[Diligence twice a-day to 4 m. Laupen, by Neueneck (*Inn*, Hirsch), on the Sense. It is famous for the battle in which the Swiss confederates, under Rudolph of Erlach, defeated the mailed chivalry of Burgundy and Suabia, 1339. A tower, erected 1853, with a short inscription to commemorate the victory stands near the spot where the main battle raged.]

Tunnel beyond Flamatt Stat.

Balliswyl Stat. Here is the *Great Viaduct* by which the Sarine is crossed. It is of cast-iron, 3000 tons being used in its construction: length between abutments, 1094 ft.; height above water, 259 ft.

On entering canton Freyburg the gauze wings and dark dress of the female peasantry of Berne are exchanged for broad-brimmed, flapping straw hats and red petticoats; while the numerous crosses at the roadside announce a Roman Catholic canton.

Skirting the old walls we soon reach

Freyburg Stat., on the W. side of the town, near the Jesuits' College. Walk from this through the town and cross the *Suspension Bridge*, thence rt. to the bridge over the Gotteron, cross it and descending the valley, pass the Loretto chapel, whence the view is very pleasing, and re-enter the town near the Arsenal.

The appearance of Freyburg from the Berne road and the wire-bridge is singularly striking and picturesque, as the road, winding round the shoulder of the steep hill overlooking the valley of the Saarine, brings the traveller suddenly in view of the antique battlements and numerous towers, crowning the summit of a precipitous rock on the opposite side of the gorge. Near the top of the hill is seen a staring modern building, like a manufactory, with 5 stories and

ROUTE 45.

BERNE TO LAUSANNE (AND VEVAY), BY FREYBURG (RAIL).

Stations.	Distance.
Bümplatz
Freyburg
Romont
Oron
Chexbres (Vevay)
Lausanne

4 Trains daily to Freyburg in $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr.
—to Chexbres—Vevay in $3-3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.;
to Lausanne in $3\frac{1}{4}-4$ hrs.

Quitting Berne Stat., the chain of

many windows, once a Jesuits' Pen-sionnat; not far from it the former Jesuits' college and convent; next, the Gothic tower and church of St. Nicholas; beyond appears the suspen-sion-bridge, hung by 4 ropes of iron across the river, and linking together the two sides of the valley. Previous to its construction the only way of reach-ing the town from Berne was by de-scending the steep hill on the one side, and following numerous circuitous zig-zags which led to the water side. The road then crossed the river 3 times by 3 different low bridges, after which it immediately ascended another slope equally steep. A diligence, or heavy carriage, performing this meandering and difficult route, required not much less than an hour to pass through the town; at present the traveller rolls luxuriously over this beautiful bridge, and, without either ascending or de-scending, is transported in 2 minutes through a breach formed in the old houses, on the edge of the precipice, into the centre of the town. A mo-derate toll for every person, horse, and carriage, is paid on crossing.

FREYBURG.—(*Inns*: Zähringer Hof, close to the bridge, very good; B., 2 fr.; table-d'hôte at 12½, 3 fr.; at 5, 4 fr.; tea 1½ fr. Beer excellent. The view of the two bridges from the plat-form behind is very fine. H. des Merciers (Krämer) near the church, good and cheaper: H. de Freiburg.)

Freyburg (10,560 Inhab., chiefly Rom. Cath.), the capital of canton Freyburg, is situated on a promontory formed by the windings of the Saarine (Saane). Many of the houses stand on the very edge of the precipice over-hanging the river, and their quaint architecture, the long line of embat-tled walls stretching up hill and down dale, varied by the chain of feudal watch-towers, and gateways of the ancient fortifications which still exist in a perfect state, together with the singular and romantic features of the gorge of the Saarine, make the distant view of the town at once imposing and highly picturesque. The narrow dirty streets and mean buildings of the in-terior do not altogether correspond

[Switz.]

with these outward promises of in-terest.

The pleasure of rambling about Freyburg is materially diminished by notices in every direction of warn-ing against trespassers.

Freyburg was founded in 1175, by Duke Berchthold of Zähringen, father of him who founded Berne, and was long a free town. In 1343 it entered into alliance with Berne, but after-wards became subject to the Dukes of Savoy; but having again become free, was in 1481 admitted into the Swiss confederation.

The Suspension Bridge, the longest of a single curve in the world, was completed and thrown open in 1834. The engineer who constructed it is M. Chaley, of Lyons. Its dimensions, compared with those of the Menai bridge, are as follows:—

	Length.	Elevation.	Breadth.
Freyburg....	905 ft.	180 ft.	22 ft. 11 in.
Menai.....	580	130	25

It is supported on 4 cables of iron wire, each containing 1056 wires, the united strength of which is capable of supporting 3 times the weight which the bridge will ever be likely to bear, or 3 times the weight of 2 rows of waggons, extending entirely across it. The cables enter the ground on each side obliquely for a considerable dis-tance, and are then carried down ver-tical shafts cut in the rock, and filled with masonry, through which they pass, being attached at the extremity to enormous blocks of stone. The materials of which it is composed are almost exclusively Swiss; the iron came from Berne, the limestone ma-sonry from the quarries of the Jura, the wood-work from the forests of Freyburg: the workmen were, with the exception of one man, natives who had never seen such a bridge before. It was completed between 1830 and 1838, at an expense of about 600,000 fr. (24,000l. sterling), and in 1834 was subjected to various severe trials to prove its strength. First, 15 pieces of artillery, drawn by 50 horses, and ac-companied by 300 people, passed over it at one time, and were collected in

as close a body as possible, first on the centre, and then at the two extremities, to try the effect of their concentrated weight. A depression of a metre (39½ inches) was thus produced in the part most weighed upon, but no sensible oscillation was occasioned. A few days after the bridge was opened by the bishop and authorities of the town, accompanied by about 2000 persons, who passed over it twice, in procession, preceded by a military band, and keeping step. The passage of 2 or 3 heavy carriages or carts across it causes only the slightest perceptible oscillation; and nothing is more extraordinary in this beautiful structure than the combination of stability with such apparent fragility. The bridge has now stood for upwards of 20 years, and certainly does not contain one-tenth of the iron used in suspension bridges of English construction. It is well seen from the platform of the Zähringer Hof, from the old road below it, and from the singular gorge of Gotteron.

Another Wire Bridge, 640 feet long and 317 high, has been suspended across the gorge of Gotteron, on the opposite side of the river Saarine. It was finished in 1840. Though not of such large dimensions as that built in 1834, it is very curious, as the wire cables are attached immediately to the solid rock on each side and the point of suspension is higher on one side than on the other, which gives it the appearance of half a bridge. The object of this mode of construction is economy, the expense of building piers of solid masonry from the bottom of the valley being saved.

The *Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas* is rather a handsome Gothic building, chiefly in the Flamboyant style (date 1285-1500). The exterior was carefully restored in 1856. The portal under the tower (date 1452) is surmounted by a curious bas-relief, representing the Last Judgment. In the centre stands St. Nicholas, and above him is seated the Saviour; on the l. hand an angel is weighing mankind in a huge pair of scales, not singly but by lots, and a pair of imps are maliciously

endeavouring to pull down one scale, and make the other kick the beam; below is St. Peter, ushering the good into Paradise. On the rt. hand is the reverse of this picture—a devil, with a pig's head, is dragging after him, by a chain, a crowd of wicked, and carries a basket on his back, also filled with figures, apparently about to precipitate them into a vast cauldron suspended over a fire, which several other imps are stirring. In the corner is Hell, represented by the jaws of a monster, filled up to the teeth with evil-doers, and above it is Satan, seated on his throne.

The *Organ*, built by the late Aloys Moser, a native of the town, is one of the finest instruments in Europe. The organist is allowed to play on it for the gratification of travellers only at a fixed hour, 8½ p.m., except on certain feast days. Tickets are obtained at the hotels. His fee is 11 fr. for a party at any other time. The performance terminates with the imitation of a storm, introducing the howling of the wind, and the roaring of the thunder, interspersed with a few flashes of lightning from 'Der Freischütz.' The instrument has 64 stops and 7800 pipes, some of them 32 ft. long.

Down to 1847 canton Freyburg presented a remarkable instance of a state with a constitution purely democratic, in which the chief influence was exercised by the hierarchy. The town of Freyburg was a stronghold of the Roman Catholic priesthood: it is the see of a bishop, who still styles himself Bishop of Lausanne, although, since the Reformation, the canton Vaud is cut off from his diocese. It contained no less than 9 convents (5 for monks and 4 for nuns), 12 churches, and 10 chapels. The *Jesuits*, while interdicted from most other states of Europe, were here openly tolerated, having been recalled, in 1818, by a decree of the Grand Council of the canton.

The *Jesuits' Convent*, or college, was founded in 1584 by Father Canisius, who died in the odour of sanctity at the age of 77, and is interred in the *Jesuits' church*, awaiting the honours

of canonisation, which have been, it is said, long promised to his remains. Henry IV. of France subscribed towards the building of the church, and presented the high altar, little aware of his coming fate from the dagger of a Jesuit. The college was suppressed by a decree of the Diet, 1847. The building of the convent is of very humble kind, rather mean than otherwise, and contains nothing remarkable. Its walls are lined with bad portraits of the generals of the order of Jesus, and of the rectors of the establishment.

The Pensionnat, or Jesuits' School, the most conspicuous building in the town, situated on a spot overlooking the other edifices, was destined for the reception of about 400 pupils, many of them children of the Roman Catholic noblesse of France and Germany, who were sent hither for their education. The School and Convent have been turned into a Cantonal school since 1848; but the loss of the Jesuits' School is felt severely by the tradesmen of the town, who were also the owners of the building.

Among the curiosities of Freyburg is the ancient trunk of a *Lime-tree*, planted, according to tradition, on the day of the battle of Morat, in 1476. The story relates that a young Freyburgois, who had fought in the battle, anxious to bring home the good news, ran the whole way, and arrived on this spot, bleeding, out of breath, and so exhausted by fatigue, that he fell down, and had barely time to cry "Victory!" when he expired. The branch of lime which he carried in his hand was immediately planted, and grew into the tree, of which this decayed trunk, 20 ft. in circumference, is the remains. Its branches are supported by stone pillars.

Near to it is the ancient *Rathhaus*, a building of no consequence, but standing on the site of the Duke of Zähringen's castle.

A long flight of steps leads from this down to the lower town and river side: it is called the *Rue Court Chemin*, and the roofs of some of its houses

serve as pavement for the street above it, called *Rue Grande Fontaine*.

The canton Freyburg is singularly divided between the German and French languages; and the line of separation, extending from the S.E. corner to the N.W., passes through the town of Freyburg, so that in the upper town French is spoken, and in the lower German. This distinction, however, is wearing out.

The walls and gates of the town are perfect specimens of ancient fortification, and contribute, along with the general air of antiquity, to carry back the spectator to a remote state of society. One tower, near the Préfecture (thrown across the street, and now converted into a prison), has acquired the name of *La Mauvaise Tour*, because it contained the rack. Though the torture had been disused in the canton for many years, it was not legally abolished until 1830!

The romantic character of the winding gorge of the Saarine, on whose margin Freyburg is planted, has been before alluded to. Close to the old bridge of Berne, another gorge, deep sunk between rocks of sandstone, called *Gorge de Gotteron*, opens into the Saarine. It is a wild spot, with strange old tumble-down mills on the stream, and the wire bridge, spanning the ravine high over head with its web-like filaments, increases its picturesque character. The larger suspension-bridge is also well seen from it.

About 3 m. lower down the valley of the Saarine is the *Grotto of St. Magdalene*, a hermitage and chapel cut out of the sandstone rock, by a native of Gruyères named Dupré, between 1670 and 1680. Its wonders have been exaggerated by the guide-books, and it is scarce worth a visit.

Diligences twice daily to Morat, about 10 m. (Rte. 46), corresponding with the steamer to Neuchâtel, to Bulle and Payerne.

On quitting Freyburg Stat., the train overlooks (1.) the deep valley of the Sense, and the Mont Moléson. 1. See the Nunnery of La Fille Dieu, on nearing

Romont Stat. (*Inns*: Cerf; Couronne), picturesquely seated on a hill above the Glane. The *Castle* was founded by the Kings of Burgundy in the 10th centy., and has a round *Tower* of solid masonry of that age worth notice. Soon after leaving Romont, a glimpse of Mont Blanc may be gained, and, beyond

Vanderens Stat., of the Jura range. Rue (*Inns*: H. de Ville; Fleur de Lys) is a picturesque town, with castle, in the vale of the Broye.

Oron le Châtelet Stat.

Chexbres Stat. This is the station for Vevay.

[*Omnibuses*, to and from every train; fare 1 fr., luggage extra; a drive of rather more than 1 hr. The return (ascent) takes longer. Fine views.]

On emerging from the rly. tunnel beyond Chexbres, a *magnificent view*. The Lake of Geneva, Valley of Rhone, Dent de Jaman, and other mountains beyond.

Grand Vant Stat.

La Conversion Stat., near the village Lutry.

A long viaduct of 9 arches next carries the line over a valley through which runs the viaduct of the Geneva and Lausanne Rly. (W. of Switzerland). The 2 lines unite before entering

Lausanne Junct. Stat. (in Rte. 55).

ROUTE 46.

BERNE TO LAUSANNE, BY MORAT AND
AVENCHES (AVENTICUM).

Post road. $6\frac{1}{4}$ posts = $56\frac{1}{4}$ Eng. m.

	Posts.	Eng. m.
Berne.		
Güminen	$1\frac{1}{4}$	= $11\frac{1}{4}$
Morat	$\frac{1}{4}$	= $6\frac{1}{4}$
Payerne	$1\frac{1}{4}$	= $11\frac{1}{4}$
Lausanne	3	= 27

The most expeditious route from Berne to Lausanne is by rly. (Rte. 45). Those who enjoy driving through a fine fruitful country, with much pleasing hill scenery, and several objects of interest on the way, may adhere to the old carriage-road, and will find it agreeable to break the journey by sleeping at Payerne. Diligence to Morat in 3 hrs.

Soon after leaving Berne a distant view of the Alps is obtained on the l. The Saarine is crossed by a covered Bridge at

Güminen, and a little farther on the road enters Canton Freyburg.

Morat — Germ. Murten — (*Inns*: Couronne; Croix Blanche)—a thriving town of 2300 Inhab., situated on the E. shore of the lake of Morat, on the high road from Berne, Basle, and Soleure, to Lausanne. *Steamboat* across the lake, down the river, through Neuchâtel L. to Neuchâtel. Its narrow and somewhat dismal streets are overlooked by an old *Castle*; and it is still partly surrounded by feudal fortifications—the same which, for 10 days, withstood the artillery of Charles the Bold.

“There is a spot should not be pass’d in vain—
Morat! the proud, the patriot field! Where
man

May gaze on ghastly trophies of the slain,
Nor blush for those who conquer’d on that
plain.

Here Burgundy bequeathed his tombless host,
A bony heap through ages to remain;
Themselves their monument.” *Byron.*

The battle of 1476, which has rendered the name of this otherwise insignificant town famous all over the world, was fought under its walls. The Swiss were drawn up along the heights a little to the S.W., and nothing could resist their impetuous charge. The loss of the Burgundians was immense: 15,000 dead bodies were left on the field, and thousands perished in the lake. The bodies of the slain were collected by the Swiss in an Ossuary, which, after standing 300 years, was destroyed in 1798 by the soldiers of the Burgundian Legion in the Revolutionary French army, anxious to efface this record of their ancestors' disgrace and defeat. The ringleaders were the band of the 75th half-brigade.

It should, however, be recollected that the Swiss were not here defending their own country, but were invading the territories of the Duke of Savoy, of which the present Pays de Vaud then formed part, because the nobles there had taken the part of the Duke of Burgundy, and that the war with Charles of Burgundy had been partly occasioned by the intrigues and bribery of Louis XI.

Byron, who visited the spot in 1816, says—"A few bones still remain, notwithstanding the pains taken by the Burgundians for ages (all who passed that way removing a bone to their own country), and the less justifiable larcenies of the Swiss postilions, who carried them off to sell for knife-handles—a purpose for which the whiteness, imbibed by the bleaching of years, had rendered them in great request. Of those relics I ventured to bring away as much as may have made a quarter of a hero, for which the sole excuse is, that, if I had not, the next passer-by might have perverted them to worse uses than the careful preservation which I intended for them."—*Byron*.

Since Byron visited the spot, the scattered remains have been collected and buried, and an obelisk has been set up over them (in 1822), by the canton, at the road-side, about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of Morat, on the site of the bone-

house. The inscription belonging to it, and one or two cannon, made of iron hoops, used in the battle, are still preserved in the *Town-house* of Morat.

The best view of the battle-field and lake is from the hill of *Münchwyler*, near an enormous lime-tree, 36 ft. in circumference, and 90 ft. high, still in full vigour and luxuriant foliage: it is probably at least 600 years old, since, according to tradition, the Swiss held a council of war before the battle under its shade. According to Ebel, the tree is 36 ft. in diameter; and the American, Cooper, in consequence, took a long walk up the hill, under a hot sun, to see it. "There we went, dragging our weary limbs after us, to discover that for 'diamètre' we ought to have read 'circonférence.' I wish the erratum had been in his book instead of mine."

The lake of Morat is about 5 m. long and 3 broad: it is separated by a narrow flat tract of land from the lake of Neuchâtel, but empties itself into it through the river Broye.

[About 5 m. beyond Morat is *Avenches* — Germ. *Witlisburg* — (*Inns*: Couronne; Hôtel de Ville), an ancient walled town of 1650 Inhab., situated in the S.W. angle of the area once occupied by *Aventicum*, the Roman capital of Helvetia. It appears to have existed before the time of Cæsar. it attained the height of its prosperity, and a population of 60,000 souls, in the reign of Vespasian and Titus; and it was destroyed, first by the Alemanni, and afterwards by Attila. The ancient walls may be traced for nearly 4 m., in some places 14 ft. thick and 15 ft. high; they extended down to the lake, where they formed a small mole and harbour. The modern town fills but one-tenth of the space they enclosed—the rest is meadow-land or corn-field. About a mile before reaching Avenches the road from Morat is carried through a breach in these ancient fortifications. On the l. is seen a tower, which, though ruined, is the most perfect of the Roman edifices here. They owe their total destruction to their massy

masonry having been for ages regarded as a quarry out of which the neighbouring houses and villages have been built. Close to the modern town, on the l. of the road, a solitary Corinthian column, 37 ft. high, is still standing, and has, for a long time, served the storks as a pedestal to build their nests on, whence it is called the Cigognier.

"By a lone wall, a lonelier column rears
A grey and grief-worn aspect of old days:
'Tis the last remnant of the wreck of years,
And looks as with the wild bewildered gaze
Of one to stone converted by amaze,
Yet still with consciousness; and there it stands,
Making a marvel that it not decays,
When the coeval pride of human hands,
Levell'd Aventicum, hath strew'd her subject lands."

Other traces of fallen splendour, such as the line of city walls, broken cornices, inscriptions, distinct remains of an *amphitheatre*, and fragments of an aqueduct, exist, and are interesting evidence of the extent of the largest Roman colony in Helvetia.

Tacitus has recorded the history of Julius Alpinus, the chief man of the city, who was condemned to death for aiding and abetting an insurrection against the Roman Emp. Vitellius, in ignorance of the murder of his rival Galba (A.D. 69).

1500 years after this event an Inscription was reported to have been found here, bearing these words:—"Julia Alpinula: Hic Jaceo. Infelicitis patris infelix proles. Deæ Aventiæ Sacerdos. Exorare patris necem non potui: Male mori in fati illi erat. Vixi annos xxiii. (I, Julia Alpinula, lie here—unfortunate child of an unfortunate parent, priestess of the Goddess Aventia. I failed in averting, by my prayers, the death of my father: the Fates had decreed that he should die ignominiously. I lived to the age of 23.)" Byron says—"I know of no human composition so affecting as this, nor a history of deeper interest. These are the names and actions which ought not to perish, and to which we turn with a true and healthy tenderness, from the wretched and glittering detail of a confused mass of

conquests and battles, with which the mind is roused for a time to a false and feverish sympathy, from whence it recurs at length with all the nausea consequent on such intoxication."

"... oh! sweet and sacred be the name!—
Julia—the daughter, the devoted—gave
Her youth to Heaven; her heart, beneath a
claim
Nearest to Heaven's, broke o'er a father's
grave.
Justice is sworn 'gainst tears, and hers would
crave
The life she lived in; but the judge was just,
And then she died on him she could not
save.
Their tomb was simple, and without a bust,
And held within one urn one mind, one
heart, one dust."

The critical acuteness of an English nobleman (Lord Mahon) has destroyed the romance of this story by proving incontestably that the above pathetic epitaph, the cause of such poetic sympathy, is an *impudent modern forgery* of the 17th century,* and that no such person as Julia Alpinula ever existed.

The *feudal Castle* was built by a Count Wivilo, in the 7th century, whence Wiflisburg, the German name of Avenches. The country here is interesting by the richness of the cultivation, the beauty of the fruit-trees, and the comfort apparently enjoyed by the population.

At *Domdidier*, 2 m. from Avenches, a road strikes off on the rt. to Freyburg (Rte. 45).]

Payerne — German *Peterlingen* — (*Inns*: Bär, is newer, but not better than the Hôtel de Ville). There are two churches in this walled town—the one, now turned into a *Halle au Blé*, is in the Romanesque style, and very ancient. Bertha, Queen of Burgundy, the founder of it and of the adjoining convent (suppressed since the Reformation, and now a school), was buried in it. The curiosity of the place is Queen Bertha's Saddle, a cumbrous machine kept in the *parish church*, from which it appears that, in her days, it was the fashion for ladies to ride *en cavalier*; but Bertha spun as she rode, having a distaff

* See 'Quarterly Review,' June, 1846.

planted on the pummel. In the same church is Bertha's tomb, an antique sarcophagus discovered 1818, now covered with a slab of black marble.

A carriage-road runs from Payerne by Estavayer to Yverdon, partly near the lake of Neuchâtel. That to Lausanne ascends the valley of the Broye, passing Henniez, to

Lucens (Lobsingen), with a castle, formerly a hunting-seat of the Bishop of Lausanne.

From Lucens the high-road leads to

Moudon—Germ. *Milden*—(Inn: H. Victoria, not good.) This town (1500 Inhab.) was the Roman *Minidunum*, hence its modern name. A Gothic church, recalling the Cathedral of Lausanne, is worth notice.

[At the village of Carouge, a road turns off on the l. to Vevay.]

The stage from Moudon to Lausanne, about 15 m., consists of nearly 7 of long and incessant ascent, and 5 of descent. Extra horses (Renfort) are required for the first. From the summit and S. slope of the *Jorat*, for that is the name of the hill, a beautiful view expands over the Lemane Lake; and in clear weather the snows of Mont Blanc and the high Alps border the horizon.

It is a drive of 3 hrs. from Moudon to

LAUSANNE (Rte. 55).

ROUTE 48.

BERNE TO NEUCHÂTEL AND LAUSANNE.

3½ posts = 31 Eng. m.

	Posts.	Eng. m.
Berne.		
Aarberg . . .	1½	= 12
Anet . . .	1	= 9
Neuchâtel . . .	1½	= 10

Neuchâtel may be reached from Berne:—*a.* By railway to Bienne, 2½ or 3 hrs. (Rte. 1); thence by rly. to Neuchâtel (but there is delay owing to the trains not corresponding). *b.* By rail to Freyburg, and diligence thence to Estavayer, on the Lake, which is crossed by steamer to Neuchâtel. *c.* By Morat and lake steamer, Rte. 19. *d.* By the *Post-road* diligences travel daily in 5½ hrs.

The road passes by *Seedorf*, a village named from the pretty little lake, to

Aarberg (Inn: Krone) on the Aar; an old castle, at times surrounded by the river. Near the ch. is the old palace of the Counts of A., who sold the town to Berne, 1351. 3 m. higher up the river is Lyss Stat. on the rly. from Berne to Bienne.

The road to Neuchâtel is carried through Siselen and

Anet, or *Ins* (Inn: Bär), a village on an eminence, from which the Alps are well seen in clear weather, with the lakes of Morat and Neuchâtel near at hand. The lake of Bienne lies about 3 m. to the N. of this place. You overlook from this the Aarberger moor, a tract of morass, 9 m. long by 6 m. wide, which has never been drained, owing to the great cost of embanking. *Bretiège* (Bratteln) is a watering-place at the foot of hills 2½ m. N. of Anet. An excellent road from Anet to Morat, opens a ready communication between Neuchâtel and Freyburg. Skirting the hill of Jolimont, we cross the river *Thiele*, or *Zihl*, through which the

waters of the lake of Neuchâtel are discharged into that of Bienne. It forms the boundary-line of cantons Berne and Neuchâtel. The Castle, close to the bridge, is now a prison. A road runs from this to *Erlach* (Cerlier), a town of 1000 Inhab., on a spur of the *Jolimont*, which projects into the lake like a wall or causeway, nearly as far as Rousseau's Island. The castle of Erlach was the cradle of the noble family of that name: among its members was Rudolph, the hero of Laupen in 1339.

The Rlwy. from Bienne to Neuchâtel is reached near St. Blaize Stat. on the margin of the lake of Neuchâtel, [Préfarger, near St. Blaize, is a lunatic asylum for 130 patients, with extensive grounds. The highest class pays 5 fr. daily for food; the 2nd class pay 2 fr.; and Neuchâtelois only 75 c. At Montmirail is a Moravian institution for educating ladies.] The road continues along the lake at the foot of the Chaumont, as far as

NEUCHÂTEL Stat., high up above the lake (Germ. Neuenburg)—(*Inns*: Hôtel Bellevue, a large building close to the lake, the best: Br. from 1 fr. 50 c. upwards; D. at 1, 3 fr.; at 4, 5 fr.: pension, summer and winter. Faucon. H. des Alpes, at the waterside, good. H. de Commerce, or Ancr. H. du Lac, clean), the chief town of the canton (10,537 Inhab. Prot.), is built upon the steep slope of the Jura mountains, and along a narrow shelf of alluvial deposits brought down by the river Seyon, gained by embankments from the water, and by turning the river into a tunnel cut for 500 ft. through the rock. Several streets have been built on the land thus acquired. Except as the threshold of Switzerland, it has little to interest the passing traveller: it has but little trade, and not much activity, except on market-days. Still, to one newly arrived in the country, the first, and, under all circumstances, glorious view of the Alps from the heights of the Jura above the town, and occasionally from the upper windows of the hôtels, must appear magnificent; and should the sky be clear, Neuchâtel, with its

picturesque old castle, its numerous white country-houses, its vine-clad hills, and its blue expanse of lake, will be pronounced beautiful.

The French princes of the house of Châlons (Longueville) were, at least nominally, the sovereigns of this little state: though the subjects maintained jealously their privileges and liberties, allowing their princes but very limited authority. When the house of Châlons became extinct in 1707, the King of Prussia was chosen, as the nearest descendant by the female line of the former lords of Neuchâtel, to be sovereign or stadtholder. The sovereignty of the house of Brandenburg was interrupted by Napoleon, who made Marshal Berthier Prince of Neuchâtel, but was resumed in 1815, and continued until lately. Though long an ally of the Swiss cantons, Neuchâtel was not formally incorporated as a member of the Confederation until 1814. There was a great struggle in 1848 between the aristocratic and the democratic parties, the latter assisted occasionally by French sympathisers from across the frontier. The constitution, as settled in 1848, is upon the regular French republican model.

In Sept. 1856 the watchmakers of Locle, headed by several of the aristocracy, rose in arms with the intention of putting down the new constitution and increasing the power of the King of Prussia. The diet, however, marched bodies of men into the canton and put down the insurgents, not without bloodshed. This affair had for some time a very threatening appearance, but was finally settled under the mediation of the great powers, the prisoners taken by the Diet being liberated, and the King of Prussia renouncing his rights and title.

The *Old Castle* on the height, now converted into government offices, was originally the residence of the French princes.

The *Church*, adjoining the castle, is a Gothic building of the 12th century: but the E. end, in the round style, is older. Within the chancel is a Gothic monument, including 15 life-

sized effigies, erected 1372 by one of the Counts of Neuchâtel; there is also a monument to Farel, the reformer, who was buried on the terrace in front, but the situation of his grave is unknown. There is a pleasing view from this terrace.

In the Palais Rougemont, or *Musée*, N.E. of the town, is the *Picture Gallery*, containing some very good productions of modern artists, chiefly native of French Switzerland, as : — *Calame's* Monte Rosa, Rosenlaui, &c.; *Ch. Girardet*, Lady Claypole, and Cromwell; *Tschaggany*, a Flemish bridal procession; *Leopold Robert* (a native of Chaux-de-Fonds), Ch. of St. Paul at Rome after the Fire, Roman Oxen, also portraits of Frederick the Great and other Prussian sovereigns.

The *Gymnasium*, a handsome building near the lake, erected by the town, as a public school, contains a very interesting *Museum of Natural History*, including good collections in zoology, conchology, and geology. The specimens of rocks and fossils illustrating the structure of the Jura mountains are very complete and instructive. This institution owes much to the zeal and talents of Professor Agassiz, a native of Orbe in Vaud, whose discoveries in the history of fossil fishes have thrown so much light on that branch of study. The town has also built a *Ladies' School* (1853), where a good cheap education is given to girls. The *Public Library* contains 30,000 vols., and among the MSS. 2000 letters written by J. J. Rousseau, 1760-1770.

A fine view from the *Observatory*, $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. N.E. of Neuchâtel. *Swimming-bath* in the lake, E. of the Bellevue H.

The charitable institutions of this town, for which it is indebted to its own citizens, are on a very splendid scale. In 1786 one David Pury left his whole fortune of 4,000,000 of livres (166,000*l.*) to endow an hospital and poorhouse, and for other purposes connected with the improvement of his native town. He had quitted it a poor lad, without money or friends, had gradually, by industry and talent for business, increased his

means, becoming, in turn, jeweller, owner of mines, banker, and, finally, millionaire, at Lisbon, where he died. His *statue* has been set up in front of the Gymnasium by his fellow citizens.

The *Hospital Pourtales* is a similar monument of the benevolence and public spirit of a townsman. It is open to people of all religions and countries alike.

Several of the richest bankers, merchants, &c., in France, are Neuchâtelois by origin.

Those who would enjoy one of the finest distant views of the Alps, with the lakes of Neuchâtel, Morat, and Bienne in the foreground, and the long range of the Jura on the N., should ascend to the *summit of the Chaumont*, the hill immediately above Neuchâtel. It is $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour's walk, and a good carriage road leads thither in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour. It is 3580 feet above the sea-level. The view comprehends the whole array of Alps, from the Titlis to Mont Blanc, and is said to be finer even than that from the Weissenstein. It must, however, be borne in mind, that the atmosphere is seldom perfectly clear. *Im* on the top, H. du Chateau, charges moderate, landlord attentive.

On the slope of the hill, about 2 m. above the town, lies the largest boulder-stone known on the Jura; it is called *Pierre à Bot* (toad-stone), and is situated in a wood, near a farmhouse; it is 62 feet long by 48 broad, and is calculated to contain 14,000 cubic feet. It is of granite, similar to that of the Great St. Bernard, from which part of the Alps it probably came, as there is no similar rock nearer at hand; yet it exhibits no symptoms of attrition, all its angles being perfectly sharp. The entire S. slope of the Jura, a limestone formation, is strewn with these granite blocks, which, from the nature of the stone, must have all been derived from the high Alps. Their presence in this spot was long a mystery, but is now pretty generally attributed to the operation of enormous glaciers covering a large portion of Switzerland and carrying these blocks on their surface, or else to the operation

of floating icebergs operating as rafts on a great lake or inland sea.

*Those who dislike so long a walk may enjoy extensive and beautiful views of the Bernese Alps and Mont Blanc from the Noiraigue Stat. of the Pontarlier Rly. (Rte. 51), or from the Hautes-Geneveves stat. of the Chaux-de-Fonds Rly. (Rte. 50).

The *Gorge of the Seyon*, immediately behind Neuchâtel, is a singular scene, and those who find little to amuse them in the town will not repent a walk to explore it, though its recesses are only to be reached by scrambling and climbing. It is a deep narrow fissure, cleaving the centre of the chain of the Jura, and allowing the river Seyon to escape from the Val de Ruz into the lake of Neuchâtel. The section it presents of the strata of the Jura limestone will prove particularly instructive to the geologist. In one spot they may be observed curved and fractured, probably by the upheaving force from below, which first broke this crevice in the mountain. Though in winter a furious torrent sweeping everything before it, it is reduced in summer to a noisome dribble of water, exhaling unwholesome effluvia. A tunnel, *de la Troué du Seyon*, has, in consequence, been made through the rock at the bend before alluded to, for the purpose of carrying its waters entirely clear of the town into the lake, at a considerable distance S. of its former outlet. This public work was executed out of the Pury fund without levying any imposts on the townsfolk.

The principal produce of the canton is *wine*; the best sorts resemble *ordinaire* Burgundy. The red wines of Cortailod and Derrière Moulins, and the white grown between Auvrier and St. Blaise, are most in repute; they are agreeable as sparkling wines.

The chief *manufacture* is that of watches and clocks, of which nearly a million are exported annually: the central seats of it may be said to be the valley of Chaux de Fonds and Locle (Rte. 50); but much is done in the town of Neuchâtel, in Sonvillier,

Sonceboz, and the large villages of the Val St. Imier; Sonvillier making 60,000 watches yearly, and St. Imier a still larger number. Most of the watches sold at Geneva are made in the canton of Neuchâtel; the dealers at Geneva contracting for all the good ones, and leaving the bad.

Railways to Locle and Chaux de Fonds;—to Paris, by Pontarlier and Dijon (this is the most direct and the shortest route from Paris to Switzerland);—to Yverdon, Lausanne, and Geneva;—to Bienne, Basle, and Lucerne. So that it is brought into easy and rapid communication with all the great towns in Switzerland. The station is on a height above the town, and may be reached by shady by-paths.

Steamers cross the lake from Neuchâtel to Morat and Estavayer, on the way to Freyburg and Berne.

ROUTE 49.

BIENNE TO YVERDUN AND LAUSANNE,
BY THE LAKES OF BIENNE AND NEUCHÂTEL.—RAILWAY.

Bienne to Neuchâtel, 18 m., Rly.
1 $\frac{1}{4}$ h.

Neuchâtel to Yverdun, 23 m.
Rly. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ h.

Yverdun to Lausanne, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. Rly.
1 $\frac{1}{4}$ hr.

Bienne is described in Rte. 3.

The rly. to Neuchâtel passes near *Nydau*, a village on the borders of the lake, with a picturesque castle, flanked by round towers and surmounted by a tall square keep. The lords of *Nydau*, an extinct branch of the former lords of Neuchâtel, were foes of Berne; their stronghold now bears on its front the Bernese bear, painted of colossal dimensions, and is converted into the cantonal salt-warehouse. From the slope of the hill near Belmont a good view is obtained of the lake and of St. Peter's Isle. rt., near a fir-wood, rises an obelisk, by way of monument to the Swiss who fell here doing battle against the French 1798.

The *Zihl* (Thiele), which drains the lake of Bienne, passes near *Nidau*.

Since the opening of the railway steamers have ceased to navigate the lake of Bienne. The trains run along its W. bank and command a fine view of it: but the Jura chain is hid.

Twann Stat. (*Inn*, Bear). Row boats may be had here to visit the island.

The *Lake of Bienne* (German *Bieler See*) is about 10 m. long, and nearly 3 broad. It is 8 feet lower than the lake of Neuchâtel, whose waters it receives at its S. extremity by the Thiele, discharging them again at the N.E. corner, through a continuation of the same river. Its banks are neither bold nor striking, but it possesses much quiet beauty of scenery,

although it owes its celebrity chiefly to Rousseau's residence on it, and to his somewhat extravagant praises. The *Isle St. Pierre*, on which he took refuge for 2 months, in 1765, after his proscription at Paris, and his pretended stoning at Motiers (Rte. 51), is situated about 6 m. from Bienne. Boats may be hired at almost all the villages on the lake to row to it. Carriages may be sent on from Bienne to Gleresse, a village opposite the island, to wait. The island, a pretty object, is a ridge of sandstone, rising 12 ft. above the lake, and prolonged southwards, under water, to the hill called *Jolimont*. It is crowned by a grove of magnificent old oaks, the shade of which in summer is most refreshing.

Rousseau's room is preserved nearly as he left it, except that its walls, doors, shutters, and windows are scribbled over with names of all nations. To escape the importunities of curious visitors he used to climb up by a stove, through a trap-door (still shown) into the garret, and frequently, when informed by his host that a party had come expressly to see him, refused to appear—"Je ne suis pas ici dans une ménagerie."

The most extensive peat-moss in Switzerland lies on the S.E. shore of the lake of Bienne. The Gothic abbey of St. Jean is now a manufactory, where the peat is condensed and transmuted into benzine oil, petroleum, and pigments. An ancient lacustrine village has been dug out of the peat, 1000 ft. from the present shore.

Neureville Stat. (Germ. *Neuenstadt*) (*Inns*: Couronne, or Pension Grether, out of the town on the S. side, surrounded by as much shade as the vineyards will afford), a thriving little town of 1200 Inhab. (here French is spoken), on the edge of the lake, at the foot of the Chasseral, whose summit (4955 ft.) may be reached in 4 hrs.; by carriage road to the village of Nodz 3 hrs., path thence to summit 1 hr.

On the opposite side of the lake, near its S. extremity, stands *Erlach* (Cerlier), at the foot of the *Joli-*

mont, a hill of sandstone, which sends out the spur prolonged into the Isle St. Pierre, producing shallows covered with reeds stretching into the lake. This hill is remarkable for the number of snakes to be found upon it.

Landeron Stat. is the picturesque old Swiss town near the mouth of the very shallow river *Thiele*, or *Zühl*, through which the waters of the lake of Neuchâtel find their way into the lake of Biennne. After passing under a wooden bridge and then under an ancient stone bridge, close to which is the castle of Thiele, the river becomes exceedingly narrow and crooked, and difficult to navigate.

The lake of Neuchâtel is about 25 m. long and 7 m. wide; 475 ft. deep, and 1420 ft. above the sea: the lake of Biennne is 3 ft. lower. The Jura mountains form one side of the lake, the other side is comparatively flat; and the scenery, though not unpleasant, is tame.

Emerging from a tunnel the train reaches

St. Blaize Stat. The line continues to rise until it overlooks the whole lake.

NEUCHÂTEL JUNCT. STAT. (Rte. 48).

The *Swiss Western Railway*. Trains to Lausanne in $2\frac{1}{2}$, $3\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. At first our line runs side by side with that to Pontarlier; about a mile from Neuchâtel the railroad crosses the glen of Serrières by a lofty viaduct. At the bottom of the gorge runs the road, over a handsome stone bridge built by Marshal Berthier. Near it is a little hamlet, composed of a group of water-mills, turned by a remarkable stream, rising in the head of the dell and falling into the lake, after a course of not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ a mile. Though it remains, as it were, but a few minutes above ground, it rises in sufficient force and volume to turn a wheel within 200 yards of its source, and subsequently sets in motion several others, both above and below the bridge. It is fed from reservoirs within the mountain, and is probably to be identified with some of those singular streams which

bury themselves in various places among the cavernous range of the Jura.

The rly. descends towards

Auvernier Junct. Stat., where that to Pontarlier turns rt. Our line also quits the lake to rejoin it beyond Bevaix.

[About 3 m. farther is Columbier, once the seat of the Scotch Marshal Keith, the friend and general of Frederick the Great; he was governor of Neuchâtel. Cortailod, by the water-side, produces one of the best wines in the canton. The village Boudri, on the Reuse, was the birth-place (1764) of the demagogue Marat.]

Bevaix Stat.

Gorgier St. Aubin Stat. From this the ascent of the Creux du Vent (Rte. 51) may be made. rt. is the well-preserved castle of *Vaumarcus*, beyond which the canton de Vaud is entered.

Concise Stat. (*Inn*: Ecu de France). More than 800 stone axes, chisels, and other tools were dredged up from the lake near this in 1861.

Near Corcelles, at the road-side stand 3 upright blocks of granite 8 to 10 ft. high, by some supposed to have been raised by the Swiss as a memorial of the victory of Grandson, but more probably of Druidic origin.

Grandson Stat.—(*Inn*: Lion d'Or)—a town of 890 Inhab. The rly. passes through the enclosure of the venerable *Castle*, now converted into a snuff-manufactory, on an eminence above the lake. It is historically remarkable because before the battle of Grandson it resisted for 10 days the assaults and artillery of the Burgundian army. When at length the garrison, reduced by famine and invited by the offer of free pardon, by a spy or deserter who had entered the castle by stealth, surrendered it, Charles, with a ferocity peculiar to his character, caused them to be stripped and hung by hundreds on the surrounding trees, and as many more to be drowned in the lake. But two days after, on the 3rd of March, 1476, he expiated this atrocious crime, and experienced the vengeance of the

Swiss, in the memorable defeat of his host, 50,000 strong, by the army of the confederates, amounting to not much more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of that number; and was himself compelled to fly for his life across the mountains, with only 5 followers. The spoil of his camp, which fell into the hands of the victors, included 120 pieces of cannon, 600 standards, all his jewels and regalia, costly hangings, and military chest; on that day gold and diamonds were dealt out to the Swiss by handfuls. In this battle, however, as in those of Morat and Nancy, the Swiss were invading the then territories of the Dukes of Savoy or of Burgundy. The scene of the battle lay between Concise and Corcelles; but the final rout of the Burgundians was at the little river between the battlefield and Grandson.

The *Church* of Grandson is of 10th or 11th centy. The prior's stall of wood is worth notice. Farel preached the reformed doctrines from its pulpit. There is a path over the hills from Grandson to Motiers Travers.

The rly. skirts the lake and crosses the Thiele.

Yverdon Stat. (Ger. *Ifferten*)—(*Inns*: H. de Londres; Croix Fédérale), a town of 5029 Inhab., at the S. extremity of the lake of Neuchâtel, at the spot where the Orbe (thenceforth called Thiele) falls into it. It is built upon the site of the Roman *Ebrodunum*, whose name, with a little change, it still inherits.

The *Castle*, built in the 12th century by Conrad of Zähringen, is in the middle of the town, and is modernised and uninteresting. It became the school-house and residence of Pestalozzi, from 1805 to 1825. Although the founder of a system of education, and of many schools both in Europe and America, he was a very bad practical schoolmaster himself; and this establishment, the headquarters as it were of his system, turned out a signal failure.

There are some pretty promenades by the side of the lake, and the town is sufficiently picturesque.

A very delightful excursion may

be made from this up to the *Lac de Joux* (Rte. 52).

Diligence to Ste. Croix, noted for the manufacture of musical boxes (50,000 in a year).

From Yverdon the rly. proceeds through a fertile and thriving country, along the valley of the Thiele, with fine views of the Jura range to the W., and often a view of snow-peaks to the S. and E. Before coming to *Chavornay Stat.* the fine castle of *Champmont* will be observed on the rt. [From *Chavornay Stat.* branch rail to *Orbe* (Rte. 52).] Soon after this the rly. passes by two short tunnels through the low range of hills which separates the valley of the Thiele, or Orbe, from that of the *Venoge*, and descends the valley of the *Venoge*. The ch. of *Cossonay* is prettily situated on a height, and the rly. passes through a fine country to

Bussigny Junc. Stat., whence one branch of the rly. goes to *Morges* and *Geneva* (Rte. 53), the other through some green and pleasant valleys, without any extensive view, to

LAUSANNE JUNCT. STAT. (Rte. 55).

ROUTE 50.

NEUCHÂTEL TO CHAUX DE FONDS
AND LE LOCLE.

About 20 m. *Railway* by La Chaux de Fonds to Le Locle in about 3 hrs.

Diligence from Neuchâtel to Le Locle by Les Ponts.

[The high-road to Chaux de Fonds runs directly through the profound chasm of the Seyon (Rte. 48).

Vallengin — (*Inn*: Couronne) — is the principal place in the fertile Val de Ruz—430 Inhab. Its *Castle* (now a prison) is in part as old as the 12th century: its base is washed by the Seyon. The *Church*, a perfectly regular Gothic structure, was built by a Count of Vallengin, on his return from the crusades, in consequence of a vow made to the Virgin in a storm at sea that he would build a church upon the water; accordingly the stream of the valley is conducted under the building.

A steep and long ascent up the Tête de Rang leads to Hauts Geneveys.]

On quitting Neuchâtel Stat. the rly. (1600 ft. above the lake) commands fine views l. over to the Alps. It crosses the Seyon and near the viaduct over the valley of Serrières penetrates a tunnel 1850 ft. long. Fine Alpine view on emerging.

Corcelles Stat., 2 short tunnels.

Chambrelieu Stat. See from it the line to Pontarlier (Rte. 51), nearly 1000 ft. below. The direction of the line is now reversed from S.W. to N., passing over the 2 small tunnels just mentioned.

Hauts Geneveys Stat. (Hôtel Reybaud), 2944 ft. above the sea, the summit level of the line.

rt. grand view of Mont Blanc.

Through a tunnel under the Col des Loges, which the high-road surmounts; close to it is

Convers Stat. Another tunnel before

Chaux de Fonds Stat.—(*Inns*: Fleur de Lys, Balances, Lion d'Or, all indifferent)—a town of 18,000 Inhab., in a bleak, upland, and desolate valley, bare of wood and nearly destitute of water, and from its great elevation of 3070 ft. above the sea, capable of producing only a scanty crop of oats. The village covers an area not less than that of the city of Oxford, each cottage being an isolated cube, surrounded by a croft or garden half an acre or an acre in extent; it was, however, burnt in 1794. Its inhabitants are reputed to be very rich. It is the chief seat of the manufacture of clocks and watches. This is not carried on in large factories, but in the separate dwellings of the workmen. Each man usually makes only one particular piece of machinery, leaving even the finishing of it to others. The number of persons here and at Locle, and in the neighbouring district, engaged in different branches of watch-making is about 12,000; the wages vary from 2½ fr. to 10 fr. a day. The number of gold and silver watches made in Locle and registered at the Board of Control in 1861, was 216,830. This is not the actual number made, which amounted to 600,000. In 1774 the total number of watches made was 300. There are two *subterranean mills* here, turned by the stream of the valley previous to its sinking underground; the rocks have been blasted to afford space for the mills; but those at Locle are even more curious. *Diligences* to Porentrui;—to Sonceboz, by the Val St. Imier.

The *Doubs*, which separates Switzerland from France, traverses one of those singular fissures common in the Jura limestone, and descends in a fall (le Saut du Doubs) 80 ft. high. Above the fall the river, dammed up by rocks, spreads out into a sort of lake; below, for the space of nearly 6 m., it runs between rocks 800 or 1000 ft. high, presenting to the pedestrian both here

and lower down, as far as Goumois and St. Ursitz, many scenes of beauty and interest.

The Rly. makes another bend to reach

Le Locle Stat.—(*Inn : Trois Rois*)—another scattered village, occupied by an industrious population of 9336 souls; the men chiefly watchmakers, the women lacemakers; rebuilt since a fire which consumed it in 1833.

The little stream of the *Bied*, which traverses the valley, loses itself, at a short distance from Locle, in a chasm in the rock. This outlet, however, proved insufficient to drain the valley; and the district around the town was, in consequence, inundated at the season of the melting of the snows—and not much better than a morass at any time. To remedy this evil, a tunnel, 950 ft. long, was pierced through the screen of solid limestone-rock which encompasses the valley in 1802-6, and this now effectually carries off into the Doubs the previously stagnant waters. At Col des Roches, a short distance from this artificial drain or emissary, and about a mile from Locle, the river disappears in a natural opening, sinking into the heart of the mountain, through a vertical abyss, more than 100 ft. deep. This water-power, or privilege, as an American would call it, is not lost; but, in order to render it available, water-wheels have been constructed within the cavernous cleft, whose powerful machinery, impelled by the falling stream, moves a corn and saw mill. "You go down flights of broken and slippery stairs, cut in the rock, to these mills, placed one under another, in very frightful situations undoubtedly, but rendered more so to the imagination of the beholder from the circumstances of darkness and ignorance of the means by which the works are secured, by the noise, the unfathomable depth below, &c."—*Simond*.

An excursion to Saut du Doubs can be made in two ways. 1. A pretty char-road leads from La Chaux de Fonds to the Planchettes; thence to Moron in $\frac{1}{2}$ hr., and to the Saut $\frac{3}{4}$ hr., along the bank of the river, returning

by Les Brenets and Le Locle. 2. A good carriage-road goes from La Chaux de Fonds to the Locle, thence to the mill of the Col des Roches, *La Roche Fendue*, the elegant village of the Brenets.

A special festival, called the *Fête du Saut du Doubs*, is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month of July, and draws thither sometimes 100 boats with music and feasting.

La Roche Fendue is an aperture bored in the rock, dividing Switzerland from France, commenced 1779, and only lately finished, by which the road to Besançon is shortened by 6 m.: it opens a singular view over the Val de Doubs.

There is another road from Locle to Neuchâtel, by Chaux de Milieu, Les Ponts, the heights of La Tourne, and Corcelles.

ROUTE 51.

PONTARLIER (IN FRANCE) TO NEUCHÂTEL, BY MOTIERS TRAVERS.

About 32 Eng. m. *Railway* (Franco-Suisse) opening the most direct communication between Paris and W. Switzerland; 3 trains daily in 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. It passes through scenery of great interest.

Pontarlier—(Inns: La Poste, good; H. National; La Croix Blanche)—the last town in France. [*See Handbook of France*].

The Railroad first ascends by the side of the river Doubs, and through the pass of La Cluse, which may be called a mountain gateway between France and Switzerland, to St. Pierre de Joux. The defile is commanded by (rt.) the *Château de Joux*, situated on the summit of a precipice, at the foot of which the roads from Pontarlier and Salins, and those from Neuchâtel and Geneva, by Jougne, unite. It has been strengthened greatly by new works and a detached fort (l.). This frontier-fort was the prison of the unfortunate Toussaint l'Ouverture, when treacherously carried off from St. Domingo by command of Napoleon. He ended his days here, some say by violent means; but the sudden transition from the climate of the tropics to a dank dungeon on the heights of the Jura sufficiently explains the cause of his death, without the need of violence. Here also was confined, previously, another remarkable prisoner, *Mirabeau*, who was sent hither by virtue of a *lettre de cachet* obtained by his father, "l'Ami des Hommes," as he called himself, and the tyrant of his own family, as he proved himself. *Mirabeau*, having by his insinuating manners obtained leave from the governor to visit the town of Pontarlier

on parole, made love to Madame de Monnier, the young wife of an old magistrate there, and eloped with her to Holland. She was the Sophie to whom he addressed some of his obscene writings.

Between the villages of Verrières de Joux and Verrières de Suisse, the French frontier is crossed. The Custom-house regulations on this part of the French frontier are more than usually rigorous. Passengers by rly. avoid this inconvenience.

The country now becomes exceedingly romantic—the hills clothed with forests, the valleys carpeted with the richest verdure, and sprinkled with neat cottages in the picturesque style of architecture peculiar to the chain of the Jura and Alps. Cheese, nearly as good as that of Gruyères, and sold under that name, is made on the upland pastures of the Jura.

The descent from the summit of the ridge into the Val Travers is through another narrow gorge, called La Chaîne, because the passage was at one time stopped by a massy chain drawn across the road, and fastened to staples in the rock. This primitive fortification is said to have been a relic of the Burgundian wars, intended to arrest the artillery of Charles the Bold.

At the village of St. Sulpice the river Reuse, which waters the Val Travers, rises out of the rock. This abundant source is said to be the outlet of the Lac d'Étalières, situated about 10 miles off, among the hills.

Fleurier (Inn: Couronne, good) (2600 Inhab.), built on both sides of the Reuse, thrives by the manufacture of watches.

Bovaresse Stat., Travers Stat. Here is a tunnel.

Couvet Stat. Omnibus to Motiers. *Diligence* daily to Le Locle by Les Ponts. Distilleries of Kirschwasser. At Presta, on the l. bank of the river, is a mine of asphalt worked by a Parisian company. Stratum 12 ft. thick. Far down, on the opposite side of the valley lies

Motiers Travers—(Inns: Hotel de Ville, good; Maison de Commune)—

a clean, thriving village inhabited by watch and lace makers, on the rt. bank of the Reuse. It was the place of residence of Jean Jacques Rousseau after his banishment from Geneva. In the house occupied by him his desk is shown, at which he wrote his celebrated 'Lettres de la Montagne'; and up stairs, in a wooden gallery, two peeping-holes, through which he could observe people out of doors without being seen himself. He quitted the place under the pretence of having been persecuted, and because the boys threw stones at his windows.

The Val Travers is highly picturesque.

Noirague Stat. [From this the ascent of the Creux de Vent, 4800 ft., may be made in 1 hr.; descent by St. Aubin or Boudry. "Its summit is hollowed out into a vast and profound cavity, 500 ft. deep, surrounded by an amphitheatre of limestone rock from the top to the bottom." It is more than 2 m. in diameter. "At times, when a change of weather is impending, the crater of the mountain is seen to become suddenly filled with a cloud of white vapour, working and rising and falling with an easy but perceptible motion, until the whole hollow presents the appearance of an immense cauldron of boiling vapour, which seldom rises above the edge. If any escape, it is by the opening towards the defile; and I have seen it repeatedly issue in a thin white line, and float gradually down the centre of the valley till imperceptibly diminished and dissipated."—*Latrobe*.

The echo produced by firing a gun within the Creux de Vent is like a scattered fire of musketry, or a succession of discharges from a battery; and the hollow may be called the very cradle of the winds, which appear to be perpetually blowing from it.]

The view now opens of the Lake of Neuchâtel, rt.; far below is seen the viaduct of the Yverdun Railway, while high up overhead is the Stat.

of Chambrelieu of the Chaux de Fonds Rly.

Auvernier Stat. Here we meet the Neuchâtel and Yverdun Line (Rte. 49), and the two run side by side. Near this fine views of the Lake and the Alps. Gradual ascent to the lofty viaduct over the gorge of Serrières. Above the gorge the Castle Beuregard is seen.

The rly. line along the valley of the Reuse has encountered and overcome very considerable engineering difficulties. 3 viaducts and 11 tunnels occur in a space of 21 m.

NEUCHÂTEL JUNCT. STAT. and Terminus (Rte. 48), high up above the lake. By shady walks the pedestrian may descend to the lake into the town, avoiding the dusty road.

ROUTE 52.

YVERDUN, OR LAUSANNE, TO THE LAC DE JOUX.

This is an exceedingly pretty excursion of two days, well worth taking by those who wish to see the best Jura scenery.

There are diligences to *Le Pont*, in the Vallée de Joux, from—*a*, Cossonay; *b*, Chavornay.

a. Cossonay Stat. (Rte. 49). From this a diligence with only two seats starts once a day, on the arrival of the train from Lausanne, and reaches *Le Pont* in 4 hrs. up (3 hrs. down), passing over a high ridge, whence there is a very fine view of the Alps.

Le Pont (see below).

b. Chavornay Stat. (Rte. 49). From this an omnibus goes, on the arrival of most trains, to Orbe, 2 m.; whence diligence once a day to *Le Pont*, 13 m. The diligence is very slow, and, stoppages included, not less than 5 hrs. are consumed between Chavornay and *Le Pont*.

After leaving Chavornay Stat. the road crosses numerous branches of the Orbe and Noxon, through a flat valley to

Orbe (*Inn*: Ecu de France, fair and cheap; *Maison de Ville*; Guillaume Tell), a very picturesque and ancient town of 1927 Inhab., built on a hill nearly insulated by the Orbe, which is crossed by 3 bridges. The lower bridge, on the road to the Vallée de Joux, is of great antiquity; the upper and modern one, of a single arch, 124 ft. span, is in use at present. Orbe was the Roman station *Urbigenum*, and a place of importance in the middle ages, under the Burgundian Kings, who had a *Royal Castle* here. The fair but cruel Brunehilde, Queen of the Franks, took refuge here, with her granddaughter, but was carried a prisoner

to Worms, and there barbarously put to death. The three sons of Lothaire I. met here, in 855, to divide his kingdom. In 1475 the Swiss took Orbe by assault; but the *Castle* made a lengthened resistance. The garrison, yielding step by step, disputed the possession of each chamber, stair, and passage. The last remnant were pursued into a tower, which the Swiss set fire to, and the few who fell into their hands alive were thrown over the battlements. The site of the castle now forms the public promenade, whence in clear weather there is a fine view over the valleys of the Orbe and Noxon to the Bernese Alps. Two towers of the castle are still standing.

An attempt was made in 1639 to connect the lakes of Geneva and Neuchâtel by a canal between the rivers Orbe and Venoge; it was cut as far as *Entre Roche*, about 12 m., but was never carried further.

About 2 m. above Orbe, near *Mont Charand*, is a cascade of the Orbe.

The road to the valley of Joux leaves Orbe by the new bridge spanning the ravine of the Orbe, and soon begins to ascend by a series of zig-zags, commanding very fine views of the snowy alps on the one side, and of the Jura range on the other. The country through which the road passes is fertile and pretty, and the road in beautiful order.

Romainmotier is a small village, most picturesquely placed in a hollow. The church of its old abbey is one of the oldest and most interesting in Switzerland; the nave remains as it was in 753. The road now follows the green and pleasant valley of the little river Nozon, continually ascending for 1½ hr. to

Vaulion, a little village in a wider part of the valley, inhabited by shoemakers, and overhung by the Dent de Vaulion. [The diligence stops a long time here, and the pedestrian will do well to ascend the Dent de Vaulion at once, walking about 1½ m. along the high road, then turning to the right and ascending the mountain which lies before him, de-

scending from the summit by another path to Le Pont.] A series of zig-zags take the carriage-road to a higher level, where little but short grass, rocks, and firs is to be seen. The road is beautifully kept, and reminds the traveller strongly of a large English park. A short descent through a narrow pass, bordered by limestone cliffs and firs, brings us to

Le Pont (*Inn*: H. de la Truite, tolerable), a little village, named from a bridge across the channel which connects the *Lac de Joux* with the small *Lac des Brenets*. It is very prettily situated at the N. end of the *Lac de Joux*, and looks like an English village, with its neat roads, good houses, and green fields. There are guides, but only one or two horses, and no sidesaddles. Care should be taken in walking amongst these mountains to avoid old wells dug for the flocks, and imperfectly covered. An unfortunate English gentleman, named Herbert, was drowned in one near the chalets of the Mont Tendre in 1837, and is buried at Mont Richer.

The valley in which the *Lac de Joux* is situated contains two other lakes, *Le Ter* and *Brenets*, and is entirely shut in by high hills; so that, although these sheets of water are fed by all the streams of the valley, they have no visible outlet above ground. There are, however, large cavities and orifices in the beds of these lakes, called *entonnoirs*, through which the waters escape. These fissures are sometimes incapable of carrying off the waters, and thus inundations are caused in the valley. A tunnel, of no very great extent, might drain the lake entirely. The *Lac de Joux* is 3210 ft. above the level of the sea. Its quiet aspect, surrounded by grassy mountains, limestone cliffs, and woods of beech and fir, would, if it were more in the highway, make the valley a popular resort. Several pleasant excursions may be made.

a. To ascend the *Dent de Vaulion*, the summit of which is not visible from Le Pont, go along the high road to Vallorbe for about a mile, until the road opens into a little valley.

Cross the little meadow or marsh, and begin to ascend through the woods in a N.E. direction. After a short walk through the wood the path follows a little valley or depression of green sward, between fir-trees and beeches. Beyond this there is no regular path, but you should continue to ascend, and the top (4930 ft.) will be reached in an hour's good walking from Le Pont. A guide is not absolutely necessary, but without one you will probably lose some time. The N.W. side of the summit is a sheer limestone precipice of some 1500 ft., looking down into the green valley of the Orbe. N. is seen the range of the Jura, E. the Bernese Alps, S. the chain of the Pennine Alps to Mont Blanc; the rest is concealed by the Mont Tendre. S.W. the lake and valley of Joux.

b. About 10 min. from the village of *Abbaye*, which is 2 m. from Le Pont, by climbing up a steep and picturesque ravine, out of which a fine stream issues, a cavern, called *Chaudière d'Enfer*, will be found, into which, by crawling and using a rope, you can penetrate about 200 yds. to a little lake or pool. There are other unexplored recesses in the cavern. Guide at the inn, 2 fr.

c. Another ascent is to the *Mont Tendre* (5510 ft.). The path to it goes up on the l. bank of the ravine, behind *Abbaye*; and the ascent occupies 3 hrs. from Le Pont. The view from its summit, extending to Mont Blanc on the one side, and to Soleure on the other, will repay the trouble of the ascent. There is a path down the opposite side of the mountain, leading, in 2 hrs., to the village of Mont Richer.

d. Instead of returning direct to Chavornay, the pedestrian who has ascended the *Dent de Vaulion* may either take a path on the N. shore of the *Lac de Brenets*, or follow the high road to Vallorbe, and visit the source of the *Orbe*, which rises at once a copious spring, fed no doubt by subterraneous conduits from the *Lac de Joux*. Near the source is an extensive cavern, called *Grotte des Fées*. The source is

about 6 m. from Le Pont, round the L. Brenet. By starting in the morning the pedestrian may catch the diligence from Salins to Chavornay, and so return by the pretty vale of the Orbe.

e. Or the excursion may be prolonged by either shore of the Lac de Joux to *Le Brassus*, a thriving town of watchmakers, and thence to *Les Rousses*, on the old post-road to Geneva, descending from which place there is a very fine view of the Alps.

f. Another route is to cross from Le Brassus to the village of St. Georges, by the Asile de Marcheiruz, 3 hrs. walk; from thence 3 leagues by a good road to Rolle, on the Lake of Geneva (Rte. 55).

Junc. Stat., distance 28 m. from Lyons, 42 m. from Macon. There is but one express train each way daily.

From Ambérieu the rly. ascends the rocky valley of the little river Serrant, making considerable curves to

Tenay Stat., beautifully situated at the junction of three valleys. Soon after this the road passes between lofty cliffs not unlike those of Clifton, and by a series of little lakes, which occasioned great difficulties to the engineers. A tunnel is passed to

Rossillon Stat. Here the summit level is reached, and the road emerges on the Swiss side of the Jura. Limestone mountains seem to close round the line, and there is a magnificent view of distant mountains. The road passes under the *Grand Colombier*, which overhangs

Culoz Junc. Stat. (Inns: Croix Blanche; Union). Here the line to Chambéry and Turin (Rte. 153) branches off. The rly. to Geneva henceforward keeps close to the Rhône, only leaving at one point in order to cut off an angle.

Seysssel Stat., on the Rhône. Here are quarries which furnish asphalt.

Billiat Stat. 1 m. hence is the *Malpertuis* ("pertuis" means a gorge), an abyss even more imposing than the *Perte du Rhône* (see further on). The river quietly flows at a depth of 600 ft. between walls of rock, sometimes not more than 14 ft. apart. The gorge of the Valscrene is crossed on a viaduct near

Bellegarde Stat. The last town in France, and French custom-house. Behind the H. de la Poste is the celebrated *Perte du Rhône* (Rte. 53 e), and not far off the *Fort de l'Ecluse*, conspicuous from the old coach-road. The Swiss territory is entered at *Challax*, 7 m. from

Geneva Terminus, at end of Rue de Mt. Blanc, leading to the lake and bridge.

ROUTE 53.

LYONS, OR MACON, TO GENEVA
(RAILWAY).

From Macon to Geneva, 114 m.; from Lyons, 100 m.; 3 trains daily in about 6 and 7 hrs. The rly. from Lyons and that from Paris (passing through Macon) join at the Ambérieu

GENEVA. (*Germ.* Genf; *Ital.* Ginevra.) Inns: H. de la Métropole, an immense establishment opposite the Jardin Anglais, a first-rate hotel. *L'Ecu de Genève, capital; Hôtel des

Bergues; Couronne, well managed, moderate, civil landlord—three excellent inns, facing the lake. Hotel Victoria, near the rly. stat., 1st class; H. Schweitzerhof; H. Beaurivage and d'Angleterre; H. de la Paix; H. du Rhône (bad smells), reasonable, 2nd class; La Balance, most comfortable as a 2nd class inn. *Restaurant*, Richter (Lion d'Or), good. *Cafés*, Du Nord (also restaurant), facing the lake, one of the best in Switzerland; La Poste.

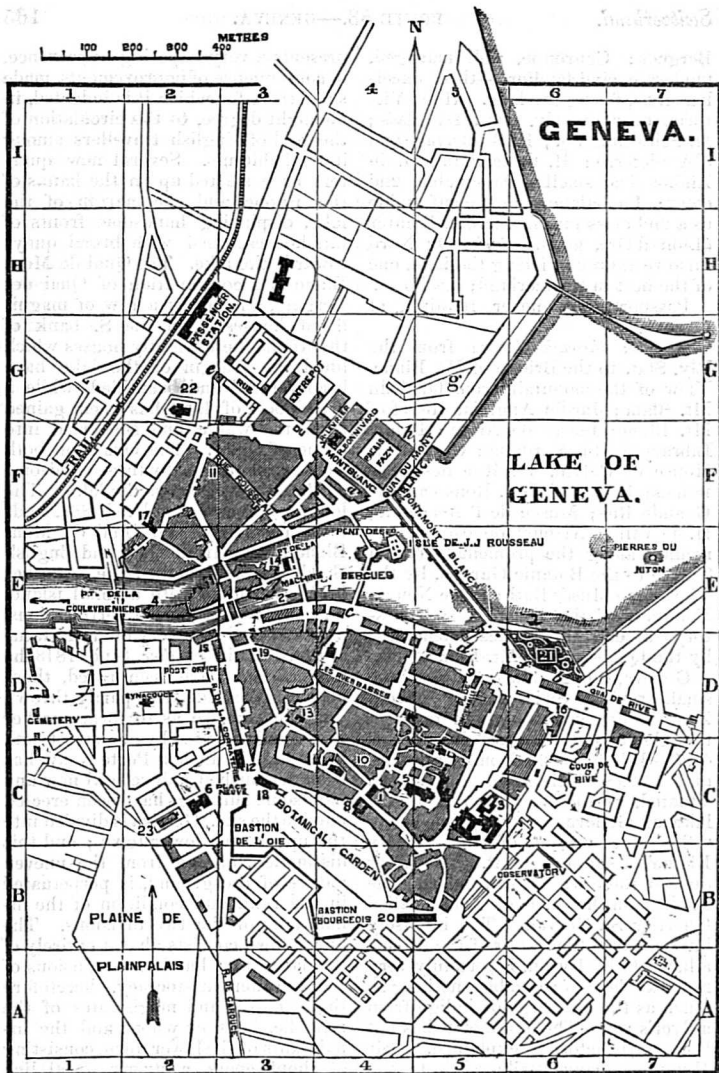
Passports are never required at Geneva.

A walk through Geneva from the Rly. Stat. to the Bridge of Mt. Blanc. View of the mountain from Quai du Mt. Blanc; Jardin Anglais; Relief of Mt. Blanc; Pierre de Niton; Public Library in Rue Verdaine; Cathedral; House of Calvin, 11, Rue des Chanoines; House of J. J. Rousseau, 40, Grande Rue; Musée de l'Académie; H. de Ville; Arsenal opposite Athénæum; along the promenade of La Treille to the Botanic Garden, by the Theatre to Musée Rath; Place Neuve; Fountain of the Escalade (see History) at end of Rue des Allemands; by the Quais to Rue Mt. Blanc.

Geneva, though the capital of the smallest of the Swiss cantons, except Zug, is the most populous town in the Confederation, since it contains 41,756 Inhab. (9322 Rom. Catholics, and 14,795 foreigners). It is well situated, at the W. extremity of the lake of Geneva, at the point where "the blue waters of the arrowy Rhone" issue out of it. The river divides the town into two parts; the smaller on the rt. bank being called Quartier St. Gervais. The intensely blue colour of the waters of the Rhone, alluded to by Byron, is certainly very remarkable, and resembles nothing so much as the discharge of indigo from a dyer's vat. The cause of it has not been satisfactorily explained. Sir Humphry Davy attributed it to the presence of iodine. The extreme purity lasts but for a short space, since a mile below the town it is polluted by the admixture of the waters of the turbid Arve.

Geneva, when seen from the lake,

presents a very imposing appearance, in consequence of improvements, made since 1830, for which it is indebted, in no slight degree, to the circulation of the gold of English travellers among its inhabitants. Several new quarters have started up on the banks of the Rhone and the margin of the lake, displaying handsome fronts of tall houses, lined with broad quays towards the lake. The Quai de Mont Blanc is a continuation of Quai des Bergues, and forms a row of magnificent houses. On the S. bank of the Rhone the unsightly houses which lined the margin of the lake have been refaced and beautified, while a broad belt of land has been gained from the water, and converted into a line of Quais. The Quais on both sides are connected by three handsome *Bridges*, thrown across the lake. The longest of these, completed 1863, leads from the Rly. and Quai du Mont Blanc to the Grand Quai and English Garden on S. side of the Lake. Another bridge is united with a small island, formerly a part of the fortifications, now occupied by a very inferior statue of Rousseau, by *Pradier*. Since 1848 the fortifications have been razed, those near the Porte de Rive partly thrown into the lake, so as to form another new Quai, occupied by new streets and houses. The ancient Porte Neuve has been demolished, and several new and handsome buildings have been erected outside the site. Geneva is divided into the upper and lower town; and this distinction, arising from the uneven nature of the ground, is perpetuated in the rank and condition of the inhabitants of the two divisions. The upper town consists almost entirely of the large and handsome mansions of the burgher aristocracy, heretofore the senators and magistrates of the republic, between whom and the inhabitants of the lower town, consisting of shopkeepers, a strong social line is drawn. The Quartier de St. Gervais is the abode of the workmen, the seat of democracy after the French pattern—the Faubourg St. Antoine of Geneva:—its streets are narrow, its houses lofty, and it has something of



1. Arsenal. C 4.
2. Bains du Rhone. E 3.
3. Public Library. C 5.
4. Boucherie. E 2.
5. Cathedral. C 4.
6. Acad. of Music. C 2.
7. English Church. F 4.
8. Hôtel de Ville. C 4.
9. Halle aux Blés. D 5.
10. Calvin's House. C 4.
11. Rousseau's House. F 2.
12. Musée Rath. C 3.
13. Museum of Acad. D 3.
14. Pumps. E 3.
15. Post and Telegraph Offices. D 2.
16. Prison. D 6.
17. Fr. Protestant Ch. F 2.
18. Theatre. C 3.
19. Monument of Escalade. D 3.
20. Athenæum.
21. Jardin Anglais.
22. R. Cath. Ch.

23. Temple Unique.
24. Hospice des Orphelins.

HOTELS.

- a. H. des Bergues. F 4.
- b. Métropole. D 6.
- c. Ecu de Genève. E 4.
- d. Couronne. D 5.
- e. H. de Genève. G 2.
- f. H. d'Angleterre. D 6.
- g. H. d'Angleterre et Beauvillage.
- h. H. de la Paix.

the air of the old town of Edinburgh. The feuds arising between the high and low town were not few, nor void of interest; indeed, they would fill a long and amusing historical chapter: they often led to bloodshed; but the democrats below generally brought their exalted neighbours to reason by the simple expedient of cutting off the water-pipes, taking especial care to guard the hydraulic machine which furnished the supply to the upper town, and which is situated in their quarter. The disputes are now between the upper town and St. Gervais, the lower town siding sometimes with one, sometimes with the other.

On the island, in the middle of the Rhone, not far from the Hydraulic Machine, traces may, it is said, be discovered of a Roman structure, supposed to be the foundations of one of the *towers* erected by Julius Cæsar, to prevent the Helvetians crossing the river. The earliest mention of Geneva occurs in his Commentaries, where it is described as "the last fortress of the Allobroges, and nearest to the Helvetian frontier."

Although Geneva is deservedly a great focus for travellers of all nations, it possesses within it few objects of interest to the passing stranger. As a town, it is not very prepossessing; it has no fine public buildings; in short, scarcely any *sights*. It is owing to its beautiful environs, to its vicinity to Chamouni, to the charming scenery of its lake, and to its position on the high road from Paris to Italy, that it has become a place of so much resort.

The *Cathedral*, or *Ch. of St. Pierre* is of an extreme simplicity of architecture. Its fine Corinthian portico added on the outside is a blemish where it is placed, but its interior possesses interest as a very early and uncorrupted specimen of the Gothic of the 11th century. It contains the monuments of Agrippa d'Aubigny, the friend of Henry IV., and grandfather of Mad. de Maintenon, and that of the Duc Henri de Rohan, a leader of the French Protestants in the reign of Louis XIII., slain near Rheinfelden, 1638. A statue of plaster

now replaces one of marble, ruthlessly destroyed at the French Revolution. The canopy of the pulpit is the same under which Calvin preached.

A *Rom. Catholic Church* in the Gothic style has been built near the rly. stat.; and a synagogue (*Temple Juif*) in the Saracenic style near the *Porte Neuve*.

The *English Church*, near the Bergues Hotel, built by subscription, on the site of the former fortifications (granted by the Swiss Government), was consecrated and opened in 1853 by the Bishop of Winchester. Mr. George Haldimann gave 1000*l.* towards it. Service is performed every Sunday at 11 and 6.

The *Palais Electoral*, outside the *Porte Neuve*, is a handsome building for elections, exhibitions, meetings, and festivals.

The *Hôtel de Ville* has been well restored.

The *Musée Rath*, so named after its founder, General Rath, who left the reversion of his fortune to it, is a building in the Greek style, close to the *Porte Neuve*, open daily from 11 to 3; it contains a collection of pictures and other works of art, the greater part by native artists. Among the Genevese painters, Calame, Diday, Hornung, and Töpfer deserve to be mentioned.

The *Musée d'Histoire Naturelle*, No. 209, Grande Rue, is chiefly interesting to the student as containing the geological collections of Saussure, the fossil plants of MM. Brongniart and Decandolle, and the collections of M. Necker. It is principally filled with the native productions of Switzerland, and contains specimens of the chamois, of the Bouquetin, the dog of St. Bernard, of all the fishes of the rivers and lakes of this country; among them the *ferra*, the lotte, and a trout weighing 43 lbs. from the lake of Geneva. There is the skin of an elephant, which lived in a menagerie in the town, but at length becoming unruly was shot.

There is also a cabinet of *antiquities*; some of them found in the neighbourhood, such as a metal buckler, with fine bas-reliefs, discovered in the

bed of the Arve, inscribed "Largitas Valentiniani Augusti;" some instruments of sacrifice found near the rocks of Neptune in the lake, &c. &c. Also the lantern dropped in the town ditch by one of the Savoyard soldiers engaged in the unsuccessful attempts to scale the walls in 1602 (see below). In the same building is the Société de Lecture, a circulating library of 40,000 vols., and a large reading-room for periodicals. Foreigners are easily admitted to the latter.

The *Public Library*, Rue Verdaine; attached to the *College*, a scholastic looking building, of no architectural pretensions, behind St. Pierre, founded by Calvin, contains 70,000 volumes. The following curiosities are shown to all who desire to see them:—394 MS. letters of Calvin, almost illegible, but with fair transcripts (there is one addressed to Lady Jane Grey while a prisoner in the Tower); 44 vols. of his MS. sermons between 1549 and 1560; 12 vols. of letters addressed to him, and many important documents relating to the Council of Basle; several volumes of letters of Theodore Beza; the manuscript of the 'Noble Leçon,' a work of the ancient Waldenses; part of the account-book of the household of Philip le Bel, for 1308, written with a style upon waxed tablets, but now almost effaced; a translation of Quintus Curtius, with beautiful illustrations, taken along with the baggage of Charles the Bold at Morat. The Discourses of St. Augustine, a MS. on papyrus of the 7th century. Letters of St. Vincent de Paul, J. J. Rousseau, &c. The library is opened every day but Saturday and Sunday, from 11 to 4, and on Tuesday, to consult books, from 1 to 3.

A new *Museum of Fine Arts*, the gift to the town of Madame Eynard, called *Athenæum*, is a beautiful building near the Botanic Garden.

The *Botanic Garden* behind the theatre, and near the Porte Neuve, deserves mention, as having been laid out under the direction of the eminent botanist Decandolle; but the funds are so limited that the collection

of plants is of no great importance. The ground it occupies has also painful historical associations. On this spot, in 1794, took place fusillades and butcheries too horrible to be detailed, in which the blood of the most respectable citizens of the town was shed, condemned to execution by a band of wretches, most of whom were their fellow-citizens, though directed by a deputy from the Comité du Salut Public at Paris.

Besides the names of Calvin and Rousseau, which are connected with Geneva—the one by adoption, the other by birth—it is the birthplace of many illustrious men, whose reputation may be styled European. The list includes the names of Isaac Casaubon; of Lefort, the friend and councillor of Peter the Great; of Necker, the weak and ill-starred minister of Louis XVI., and father of Madame de Staël; of the naturalists Saussure (who first ascended Mont Blanc), Bonnet, De Luc; and Huber, the biographer of the bee and ant; Decandolle, the botanist; of Delolme and Mallet du Pan, writers; of Gallatin, U.S.; of Rossi, the Pope's minister, assassinated at Rome in 1849; of Dumont, the friend and adviser of Mirabeau and Jeremy Bentham; and Sismondi, the historian. Among the living there are Neckar, the geologist; De la Rive, the chemist; Alphonse de Candolle, and Edmond Boissier, botanists; Plantamour, astronomer; Maunoir, the oculist; and Merle d'Aubigné, author of the *History of the Reformation*, and a preacher at the Oratoire.

Geneva may be regarded as the intellectual metropolis of Switzerland; and strangers who choose it as their residence, if provided with good introductions, will find, among the upper classes, a very agreeable society, including many individuals distinguished for their literary and scientific acquirements.

The staple manufacture of Geneva, from which it derives its chief commercial prosperity, is that of *watches*, *musical boxes*, and *jewellery*. The first watch was brought to Geneva in 1587,

and at the end of the last century 4000 persons were employed within the town, and 2000 without the walls, on this manufacture. At present the number is diminished to less than 3000, though, from improvements in the mechanical processes and increased skill of the workmen, the number of watches made is much greater than before, 100,000 being now manufactured annually. Upwards of 50 watch-makers' and 70 jewellers' workshops are kept in constant employment in the town; and it has been calculated that in good years, 75,000 ounces of gold, 5000 marks of silver, and precious stones to the value of a million of francs, are used in them. A committee of master workmen with a syndicate at their head, called *commission de surveillance*, are appointed by the government to inspect every workshop and the articles made in it, to guard against fraud in the substitution of metals not of legal alloy, and thus to prevent any deterioration in a branch of industry productive of so great an advantage to Geneva. Among the best establishments for jewellery and watches is that of Rossel et Fils, Rue du Rhône; Hesse and Metford, Grand Quai, 14; Liödet; also Mr. Geo. Roch, 5, Rue du Rhône. A good watch costs from 300 to 500 francs.

At the French custom-house, musical snuff-boxes, of Genevese manufacture, and watches pay a duty of only 5 fr. each. Smuggling, once carried on to an enormous extent between the Swiss and French frontiers, has greatly diminished, owing to the modifications of the French tariff.

Theatrical performances, for centuries interdicted in Geneva by one of the austere laws of Calvin, are now tolerated, and a *Salle de Spectacle* has been built close to the Porte Neuve. Voltaire greatly shocked the prejudices of the citizens by acting plays, as it were under their very nose, at Les Délices and Ferney. Rousseau writes to him, "Je ne vous aime pas; vous avez corrompu ma république en lui donnant des spectacles." A *Conservatoire de Musique* has also been erected.

[Switz.]

A very well executed *model of Mont Blanc*, the work of an artist named Sene, who employed 10 years upon it, is placed in a building erected for the purpose, in the Jardin Anglais. It is interesting to study either before or after a visit to Chamouni.

On the grand Quai, close to the port where the steamers land, a *Limnimètre* (lake measure) has been erected to mark the rise and fall of the waters of the lake, which amounts to 50 inches or more, and makes a very great difference in the appearance of the town.

At the *Boucheries*, near the Post-office, the town maintains, at the public expense, a brace of Eagles. These birds are the armorial bearings of Geneva, as the bear is of Berne.

The *Post Office* is a handsome edifice on the Place Bel Air, Rue de la Corrairie. The *Electric Telegraph Office* is on the First Floor.

There is a most respectable Genevese Club, called the *Cercle de la Rive*.

A *British Consul* was appointed for Geneva, 1846. Mr. Mackenzie, 2, Rue Centrale, opposite Post-office, the gentleman who fills the office, is most obliging and anxious to be useful.

An American (U.S.) Consul resides here.

Railways: to Paris by Macon in 15 hrs.; to Lyons or Paris by Fort l'Ecluse (Paris time kept); to Lausanne, Berne, Sion, on the Simplon Route; to Neuchâtel, by Morges (Berne time).

Steamboats twice a day along the N. shore of the lake to Lausanne and Villeneuve in 5 hours. Twice along the S. shore in connexion with the Sion Rly. at Bouveret.

To *Chamouni*.—Diligences daily at 7, 7½, and 8, from Grand Quai, making the journey in 9 or 10 hours.

Voituriers charge for a carriage with one horse 15 fr., with two horses 30 fr. per diem (Kölliker, Aux Pâquis, lets carriages).

Post-horses—120, Rue du Cendrier. ½ a post extra is charged on quitting Geneva.

Geneva is lighted with gas (1845).

The coal is brought from St. Etienne. The English traveller, especially if he be leaving Switzerland, will do well to provide himself here with those little English comforts which he will not find beyond the next custom-house. At the shop of Archinard and Bordier, in the Rue Basse, all kinds of English cutlery and household goods may be had genuine. Mrs. Lang, 8, Rue Mt. Blanc, for "articles Anglais" and needlework. The Demoiselles Lacour, in the Grande Rue, are celebrated for gloves and ladies' shoes; Clerc Bonnet, Quai des Bergues, has the best supply of cigars, tobacco, and snuff. Brachard, Grande Rue, and Wesel, opposite, are good stationers. Briquet has published good maps. Bastard, Rue des Allemands, a good chemist.

Monroe, bookseller, 32, Grand Quai, has a *reading-room*, and keeps a store of maps, guides, English books, &c.; and a visitors' and strangers' book. Good tea and Palmer's biscuits may be had of Monroe.

Dr. Coindet is an eminent and friendly *physician*. Dr. Lombard also is well informed, kind, and experienced: both studied at Edinburgh.

There is also a resident English physician, Dr. Metcalf, 3, Quai du Mont Blanc. G. Baker keeps an English pharmacy. The extremity of the Quai du Mont Blanc, or the Isle Jean Jacques Rousseau, formerly the *Isle des Bergues*, is a good point of view to see the lake and Mont Blanc.

In the *Cemetery of Plain Palais*, a little way beyond the Porte Neuve, Sir Humphry Davy, who died here in 1829, and near to him Decandolle the botanist, Dumont, and Pietet, are buried. The site of Calvin's grave is unknown.

In the bed of the lake lie many granitic boulders, transported from the high Alps. Two of these, a short distance beyond the port of Geneva, and a little to the S.E. of the town, are so large as to project above the water. They are called *Pierres de Niton*, from a tradition that sacrifices were offered upon them to the god *Neptune* by the Romans. Indeed, instruments of sacrifice have been found near them.

History. Geneva is of Roman origin. In the middle ages up to 1530 Geneva was governed by its bishop, with whom the citizens had many struggles. In 1401, the Counts of Savoy became powerful enough always to obtain the bishopric for one of their own family. One portion of the citizens, leagued together under the name of Eidgenossen (from which "Huguenot" is probably derived), after many struggles with the Counts or Dukes, in 1518 concluded an alliance with Freyburg and soon afterwards with Berne, and in 1530 compelled the Duke of Savoy to sign a treaty by which they regained their independence. The struggles between the different classes of citizens in the following 250 years are exceedingly curious. After a sort of reign of terror Geneva was annexed to France in 1798. In 1814 it became a member of the Swiss confederation, and the aristocratic government was re-established, but after many changes a democratic government was established in 1846, every citizen having a vote. In 1846 the town had a balance in hand of 300,000 fr.; it now owes 23,000,000 fr., besides an unknown floating debt, an annual deficit of 800,000 fr., and a municipal debt of 6,000,000 fr. On the other hand, it should be said that many public improvements have been carried out under the new government.

Geneva may be said to possess an historical interest for intelligent travellers, far greater than that to be derived from the individual objects of curiosity contained within its walls. The influence which she has exercised, not only over Europe but over the world, by means of her children, or those whom she has adopted as her citizens, is quite out of proportion to the limited extent of a territory which one may traverse from end to end in a morning's ride. Voltaire ridiculed its diminutiveness by saying, "Quand je secoue ma perruque je poudre toute la république;" and the Emperor Paul called the disputes of its citizens a tempest in a tumbler of water: yet from Geneva emanated those religious doctrines

from which Scotland, Holland, and a large part of France, Germany, and Switzerland, derive their form of faith, and which were transported by the Pilgrim Fathers to the opposite shores of the Atlantic. Here also were sown those political opinions which bore fruit in the English revolution under Charles I., in the American and the French revolutions.

It was in the year 1536 that *John Calvin*, the reformer, passed through the town a fugitive, on his way from Italy to Basle. Two years had not elapsed since the Genevese had abolished Roman Catholicism, expelled their bishop, and adopted the Reformation. Farel, who was the means of introducing it, was then preaching at Geneva, and, aware of Calvin's talents and powerful eloquence, entreated him to remain. Calvin obeyed the call, and, in a short space, the itinerant preacher and foreigner was raised to be the dictator of the republic, ruling its turbulent democracy with a sway not more mild than that of the dukes of Savoy and bishops of Geneva, under which the citizens had groaned for ages, and from which the Reformation had at length released them. From the pulpit of St. Peter's Church, which became at once the tribune and judgment-seat of the reformer, he denounced the prevailing immorality of the town with such eloquence and force that profligacy was obliged to hide its head. His hearers, running into an opposite extreme, adopted a rigorous and puritanical austerity of manners, and every transgression of Calvin's code of morals was visited with punishment of the utmost severity.

But Calvin's influence was not confined to the pulpit; he was elected president of the Consistory, of which one third of the permanent members were ministers, and the remainder laymen holding office for a year only. This council assumed an authority far more despotic than that of the bishops: it exercised the power of an inquisition, to examine into men's

private lives, and into the affairs of families of whatever rank.

The sumptuary laws enacted by Calvin were severe, but were rigidly enforced by the Consistory. They contained such enactments as the following: a dinner for ten persons was limited to five dishes; plush breeches were laid under interdict; violations of the sabbath were followed by a public admonition from the pulpit; adultery was punished with death; and the gamester was exposed in the pillory, with a pack of cards tied round his neck.

Calvin was equally rigorous in the maintenance of orthodoxy. Servetus, condemned by him for holding anti-trinitarian doctrines, which, however, he did not attempt to disseminate in Geneva, was burnt at the stake in the *Champ de Bourreau*, the ancient place of execution outside the walls. The hole in which it was planted is now filled up, and the destination of the spot is changed.

Geneva, thus become the metropolis of Calvinism, and "the Rome of Protestantism," was resorted to by many foreigners, who sought refuge here from religious persecutions in their own country. Among a number of English and Scotch exiled by the cruelties of the reign of Queen Mary, was John Knox. He was made a citizen of Geneva in 1558, and did not finally quit it till 1560. Calvin died in 1564, at the age of 55, after 23 years of uninterrupted power: he was buried in the *cemetery of the Plain Palais*, but he forbade the Genevese to mark the spot where his remains were laid with a monument.

The Duke of Savoy, for many years after his authority within the town had been destroyed, was engaged in repeated open contests with the citizens; nor did he omit to maintain, within the walls, spies and secret partisans, in the hopes of gaining possession of it by surprise. The street called *Corraterie*, at the period in question, A.D. 1602, the town ditch, was the scene of the most memorable of these attempts, known in Swiss history as *the Escalade*. The

inhabitants, lulled to security by a display of pacific intentions on the part of the reigning Duke Charles Emanuel, had neglected all precautions to guard against an attack, even though warnings had been given them of approaching danger. On the night of Dec. 20th the townsfolk were aroused from sleep by the firing of musketry, and by an alarm that the enemy was already in possession. It appeared that a sentinel, in going his rounds with a lantern, had fallen among a party of armed men, who had quickly despatched him, but not before his cries and the report of his matchlock had aroused the rest of the guard. It was quickly discovered that a party of Savoyards, 200 strong, detached from a still larger force of 2000 men, who had approached the city in the darkness, and were posted on the Plain Palais, a little distance beyond the walls, had descended into the fosse de Corratierie, and by the aid of scaling-ladders, painted black, in order that they might not be seen, had surmounted the ramparts, were proceeding in small parties to burst open the Porte Neuve, and thus admit their associates on the outside. The Savoyards had already despatched a messenger announcing to their commander the capture of the town; but the citizens, though completely taken by surprise, were by no means seized with the panic which such an occurrence was likely to produce. Every man, armed as he might be, issued out into the streets; the small body of Savoyards who had gained the ramparts were quickly overpowered; the first gun fired from the walls, by a chance shot, swept away three of the scaling-ladders; and the enemy on the outside, on approaching the Porte Neuve, found that, instead of being blown up, it was strongly guarded, with the portecullis down. Many anecdotes are told of the prowess of the townspeople on that night; and an iron saucepan, with which an old woman knocked down a soldier, is still preserved in the arsenal, along with a piece of the scaling-ladders. The

storming party, thus unexpectedly attacked, and at the same time cut off from their friends, were quickly killed or made prisoners. Those who fell alive into the hands of the Genevese were hung next day as house-breakers: 67 heads were planted along the ramparts, but many more than these fell in the ditch and outside the town. The venerable Theodore Beza, at that time 80 years old, gave out from the pulpit next day the 124th Psalm, which has been sung ever since on the anniversary of the Escalade.

Jean Jacques Rousseau, son of a watchmaker of Geneva, first saw the light in a house in the Rue du Cheval Blanc. The accident of his being shut out of the town one evening, on his return from a walk, induced him to fly from his native town, as he feared to face his master next morning. His book, the *Emile*, was burnt, in conformity with an order of the Council of Geneva, by the common hangman, in front of the Hôtel de Ville, in 1762. The instigators of this act were Voltaire and the Council of the Sorbonne, who, by a singular coincidence, in this instance acted in unison. The Council at the same time issued a warrant for the arrest of the author.

Environs of Geneva.

Omnibuses run to Carouge, St. Julien, Lancy, Troinex, and Ferney, every hour, and to Vandœuvre and Sacconex 5 times a day. There is an American tramway also to Carouge: 350,000 persons were conveyed by it in the first 3 months.

It has been already observed that Geneva is chiefly distinguished for its beautiful situation on the margin of an enchanting lake, whose gently-sloping banks are scattered over with villas, surrounded by gardens, and looking more like English country-houses than any to be found in other parts of the Continent.

The rides, walks, and views in the vicinity are delightful, and almost

endless; but the great charm of every prospect is the *Mont Blanc*, and the range of Alps of Savoy, when they deign to show themselves, which they do not, in perfect distinctness, more than 60 times a year on an average. There cannot be a more lovely sight than that of *Mont Blanc*, and the surrounding *Aiguilles*, tinged with the pink hue which the departing sun sheds upon them in certain states of the atmosphere.

a. The junction of the *Arve* with the *Rhone* is well worth visiting, and is best seen either from the tongue of land between the two rivers, which is reached on foot over the wire bridge to the rt. of the *Porte Neuve*, along the l. bank of the *Rhone* by the gas-works, or from the grounds of a country-house called *Châtellaine*, or *Campagne Matthieu*, on the rt. bank of the *Rhone*, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. beyond the *Porte de Cornavin*. On the way to it, *Les Délices*, a country-house of *Voltaire*, is passed.

The *Arve*, a wide torrent fed by the snows and glaciers of *Mont Blanc*, looks like a river of mud. The pellucid blue waters of the *Rhone*, driven on one side by the furious entrance of its new ally, for a long time refuse to mix with it, and the line of separation between the blue and white water is distinctly marked. At length the *Arve* gains the mastery; and the *Rhone*, once polluted, does not recover its perfect purity before reaching the sea.

b. On the S.E. side of Geneva rises the *Mont Salève*, a long line of limestone precipices, seeming to impend over the town, though it is, in reality, 5 m. off, and within the Sardinian territory. Those who are acquainted with *Edinburgh* may be reminded of *Salisbury Crags* in looking at it. The S. side of this mountain is a gentle slope, covered with verdant pasture and sprinkled with houses. The whole of this vast inclined plane, facing the Alps, is strewn over with fragments of rock, identical with that of which *Mont Blanc* is composed (p. lx.). The largest of these masses is 7 ft. long.

The summit of the *Salève* (4560 ft.), more than 3100 ft. above the lake, is frequently scaled by the inhabitants of Geneva, who make picnic parties to enjoy the view from its summit. The shortest road to it is by *Carouge* and *Veyrier* (taking the junction of the *Arve* on the way: there is a shorter road back, 3 m.); whence a very steep path, practicable only on foot, partly formed by steps cut in the rock, and called *Pas de l'Echelle*, leads up through a remarkable gap in the mountain to the village of *Monetier* (pronounced *Monté*) $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. Those who cannot walk may reach *Monetier* by a carriage-road, which makes a *détour* of 8 m. from Geneva, through the beautiful village of *Mornex*, at the back of the mountain. The pleasantest way is to be driven to *Monetier*, thence to ascend the *Petit* or the *Grand Salève* on foot, and to descend the *Pas de l'Echelle* on foot to *Veyrier*, whither the carriage may be sent round to wait for the party.

At *Monetier* is a comfortable stopping-place, the *Hôtel* and *Pension Reconnaissance*, commanding beautiful views, kept by civil people, and prices reasonable. From thence to the top is about an hour. Near the top are the *Châlets des Treize Arbres* (3850 ft.), so called from the presence of a few trees. The view extends S. up the valley of the *Arve* over the *Mole* to *Mont Blanc*; E. over a vast expanse of the lake; N. to the town of Geneva, the *Rhone*, and the *Jura* behind; W. the eye follows the valley of the *Rhone* as far as the gap in the *Jura* mountain, through which the river forces its way into France. The stony path has been superseded by a good carriage-road, made at the expense of a Genevese, *Mr. Naville*, whose residence, *Grange Gaby*, crowns the top of the mountain. Danger formerly arose from attempting to descend through a promising cleft or gorge, where a very steep slope ends in an abrupt precipice. For any one accustomed to mountains there is no danger whatever; but in 1853 one English gentleman was killed, and his companion

broke his thigh, in wandering about on the mountain, after losing their way. This cleft, called the *Grande Gorge*, is frequented by botanists, who there find several rare plants. The ascent was formerly difficult, but a sort of path has now been made.

c. On the S. shore of the lake, about 2 m. from Geneva, and a little to the l. of the high road to Thonon, is the *Campagne Diodati*, Lord Byron's residence in 1816, where he wrote ' Manfred,' and the third canto of ' Childe Harold.' Deodati, professor of theology, it will be remembered, was a friend and correspondent of Milton, who visited him here.

On the opposite side, on the hill of Pregny, is the very commanding seat of Baron Rothschild, built with more magnificence than taste; fine *Views* from the grounds: it is visited by application at the banker Ferrier's, Place du Molard, Geneva.

d. *Ferney*, the residence of Voltaire, is situated within the French territory, about 5 m. N. of Geneva, on the road to Paris by Gex. On the way thither, near Grand Saconnex, an eminence presents one of the best points of view of Mont Blanc.

Voltaire resided for nearly 20 years at Ferney, from 1759 to 1777. He may be said to be the founder of the village, which, before his time, consisted of but 6 or 8 hovels. He collected industrious colonists, introduced useful manufactures among them, and improved his estate, of about 900 acres, by draining, &c., besides building on it the *Château*, which still exists, but has been so much altered by its present proprietor, that few traces of the philosopher now remain. On the l. hand, as you enter the gates, stands the *Church*, originally inscribed with the words "*Deo erexit Voltaire*," now used as a hayloft. The *Theatre* stood opposite, in which his own tragedies were acted by amateurs, but it has been pulled down.

The situation of Ferney is charming, in full view of the Alps and of Mont Blanc; but the windows of the house, excepting those of the Library, were

turned directly away from the landscape. In the garden is a long berceau walk, closely arched over with clipped horn-beam—a verdant cloister, with gaps cut in it here and there, admitting a glimpse of the prospect. Here Voltaire used to walk up and down, and dictate to his secretary. Among the trees of the grove round the house is an elm planted by his own hand in 1763: it was struck by lightning in 1824.

e. *Perte du Rhône*.—The excursion to the Perte du Rhône at Bellegarde, on the French frontier, may be recommended. The distance is about 16 m., and it may be reached in 1 hr. by the rly. The carriage-road from Collonges to Bellegarde is very fine. You enter

—“where the swift Rhone cleaves his way
between
Heights which appear as lovers who have
parted.”

The lofty Vuache on the side of Savoy, and the huge mass of the highest part of the Jura chain, slope precipitously down to the torrent of the Rhone. The road hangs midway in this prodigious passage; and the *Fort de l'Ecluse*, the fortress which gives its name to the pass, commands this entrance of France. Infinite labour and expense have been used by the French government to strengthen this position since its destruction by the Austrians, 1814. Additional batteries have been hewn in the rock above the lower fortress, and these communicate with the guard-rooms below by a broad staircase, of more than 1000 steps, hewn inside the solid mountain. Leave may sometimes be obtained from the governor to view the fortress; but at any rate the road passes through it, and enables the traveller to see something of its remarkable defences.

From Collonges to Bellegarde (*Hôtel de la Poste*) the road sweeps along the wild gorge through which the Rhone pours. At Bellegarde it crosses the narrow and rocky bed of the Valserine. The traveller will

walk from the inn to the Perte du Rhône ($\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile); he will find plenty of squalid guides to show him the spot where the river, which he has accompanied from the clear cistern of its waters through the rough mountain pass, plunges at once beneath an accumulation of broken rocks which have fallen from above and covered its bed from side to side. When the waters are tolerably low, as in the spring or winter, the whole river is absorbed for a distance of 120 yards; but the Sardinian government, to facilitate the floatage of timber, &c., has blown up a considerable portion of the covering rocks and laid bare the channel. The bed of the Valserine is more picturesque, and scarcely less curious than the Perte. It is also deeply cut in the rock, but not so deep as the bed of the Rhone, consequently has to make a leap to join it. At the junction are some very picturesque mills (*Moulin de Mussel*), one of which was nearly annihilated by a falling rock, 1844. It is worth while to descend from the garden of the inn into the worn channel of this little river, which is almost dry in summer time, except where a runlet of its water burrows into the clefts and fantastic bends of the calcareous rock. The Malpertuis (p. 164) should be seen if possible.

f. Another pleasant excursion may be made to *D'Ivonne*, where the river Versoix takes its rise in a pretty grotto at the foot of the Jura; and people go to eat the small delicate trout which are taken in it. M. Paul Vidart's great hydropathic establishment is here. The view from the terrace of the Château d'Ivonne is very fine. The best road to go is by Coppet and Celigny (where the waterfalls should also be visited), and to return by Ferney. The distance from Geneva to D'Ivonne is 12 m.

g. *Les Voirons*—a wooded chain of mts. in Savoy, E. of Geneva. A good Hotel at the top. Omnibus at 5 P.M., from Rue de Rive, No. 3, to La Bergue, at the foot of the mountain, in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. 3 hrs'. walk or ride to the top.

h. The Reuillet, a point of Mt. Jura, 5643 ft., only 11 ft. lower than the Crêt de la Neige, the highest point in the whole chain. Drive to St. Genix, and sleep at Thoiry. Next day breakfast at the chalet of Narderau, and walk along the top of the chain, descending to Gex in time for omnibus to Geneva. Take provisions. The views are very fine.

Chamouni and the shores of Lake Lemman may be explored in 4 days from Geneva—thus, 1st, by early steamer to Lausanne or Vevay—by 2nd steamer on to Villeneuve—in the evening by the rly. to Martigny; 2nd, by the Tête Noire or Col de Balme to Chamouni (Rte. 138); 3rd, at Chamouni; 4th, back to Geneva.

ROUTE 55.

GENEVA TO VILLENEUVE, BY LAUSANNE,
VEVAY, AND CHILLON. LAKE OF
GENEVA.—RAILWAY.

6½ posts = 59 Eng. m.

	Eng. m.
Geneva.	
Coppet	10
Rolle	12
Morges	9
Lausanne	8
Vevay	11½
Villeneuve	9

Rly. to Bussigny and Lausanne. As far as Coppet it belongs to the Lyons and Geneva Co. From Coppet it belongs to the Western Rly. of Switzerland. The continuation of this line from Lausanne to Villeneuve and Sion was opened for traffic in 1862. But for those who are not in a violent hurry a far more pleasant route is by

Steamboat.—*Steamers* leave Geneva and Villeneuve, at the two extremities of the lake, twice a day. They make the voyage from one end to the other in about 5 hours. The *steamers do not take carriages*. They stop to land and receive passengers at Coppet, Nyon, Rolle, Morges, Ouchy (the port of Lausanne), 3 hrs., Vevay 4 hrs., and Villeneuve—all situated on the N. shore of the lake, and described below. Another steamer plies between Geneva and the towns on the S. (Savoy) side of the lake. (Rte. 57.)

Lake Leman, in a Calm.

"Clear, placid Leman! thy contrasted lake,
With the wild world I dwellt in, is a thing
Which warns me, with its stillness, to forsake
Earth's troubled waters for a purer spring.
This quiet sail is as a noiseless wing
To waft me from distraction; once I loved
Torn ocean's roar, but thy soft murmuring
Sounds sweet as if a Sister's voice reproved,
That I with stern delights should e'er have
been so moved.

It is the hush of night, and all between
Thy margin and the mountains, dusk, yet
clear,
Mellowed and mingling, yet distinctly seen,
Save darken'd Jura, whose cap't heights
appear
Precipitously steep; and drawing near,
There breathes a living fragrance from the
shore,
Of flowers yet fresh with childhood; on the
ear
Drops the light drip of the suspended oar,
Or chirps the grasshopper one good-night carol
more.

* * * * *
At intervals, some bird from out the brakes
Starts into voice a moment, then is still.
There seems a floating whisper on the hill,
But that is fancy,—for the starlight dew
All silently their tears of love instil,
Weeping themselves away."

Lake Leman, in a Storm.

"The sky is changed!—and such a change!
Oh night,
And storm, and darkness, ye are wondrous
strong,
Yet lovely in your strength, as is the light
Of a dark eye in woman! Far along,
From peak to peak, the rattling crags among
Leaps the live thunder! Not from one lone
cloud,
But every mountain now hath found a
tongue,
And Jura answers, through her misty shroud,
Back to the joyous Alps, who call to her aloud!

Now, where the swift Rhone cleaves his way
between
Heights which appear as lovers who have
parted
In hate, whose mining depths so intervene
That they can meet no more, though broken-
hearted!
Though in their souls, which thus each other
thwarted,
Love was the very root of the fond rage
Which blighted their life's bloom, and then
departed:
Itself expired, but leaving them an age
Of years all winters,—war within themselves to
wage.

Now, where the quick Rhone thus hath cleft
his way, [stand:
The mightiest of the storms hath ta'en his
For here, not one, but many, make their
play, [hand,
And fling their thunder-bolts from hand to
Flashing and cast around: of all the band,
The brightest through these parted hills hath
fork'd
His lightnings,—as if he did understand,
That in such gaps as desolation work'd,
There the hot shaft should blast whatever
therein lurk'd.

And this is in the night:—Most glorious
night!
Thou wert not sent for slumber! let me be
A sharer in thy fierce and far delight,—

A portion of the tempest and of thee!
 How the lit lake shines, a phosphoric sea,
 And the big rain comes dancing to the earth!
 And now again 't is black,—and now, the glee
 Of the loud hills shakes with its mountain-
 mirth,
 As if they did rejoice o'er a young earthquake's
 birth.

Sky, mountains, river, winds, lake, light-
 nings! ye!
 With night, and clouds, and thunder, and a
 soul
 To make these felt and feelings, well may be
 Things that have made me watchful; the far
 roll
 Of your departing voices is the knoll
 Of what in me is sleepless,—if I rest.
 But where of ye, oh tempests! is the goal?
 Are ye like those within the human breast?
 Or do ye find, at length, like eagles, some high
 nest?" *Byron.*

The Lake of Geneva, called by the Romans *Lacus Lemanus*, has nearly the shape of a half-moon, its horns being turned towards the S. It is the largest lake in Switzerland, being 55 m. long, measured close to its N. shore, and about 40 m. along its S. bank; it is 6 m. wide at the broadest part (between Rolle and Thonon), and its greatest depth (between Evian and Ouchy) is 900 ft. Its surface is about 1142 ft. above the level of the sea, but the height often varies in the year more than 50 inches, being usually lowest in the winter, between Jan. and April, and highest in Aug. and part of July and Sept., owing to the supplies then derived from the melting snows and glaciers. Besides these periodical variations, the Lake is subject to other more arbitrary changes of level, called *seiches*. This phenomenon consists of a sudden rise and fall of the water in particular parts of the lake, independently of the agency of the wind or of any other apparent cause. It is most common in the vicinity of Geneva. During these oscillations the waters sometimes rise 5 ft., though the usual increase is not more than 2; it never lasts longer than 25 minutes, but it is generally less. The cause of these *seiches* has not been explained with certainty, but they are observed to occur most commonly when the clouds are heavy and low. The lake never freezes over entirely, owing to its great depth; but in severe winters

the lower extremity is covered with ice. The sand and mud brought down by the Rhone and deposited around its mouth have caused considerable encroachments upon its upper extremity: even within the records of history *Porte Valais* stood on its margin, and its basin is reported to have originally extended upwards as far as *Bex*.

"*Mon lac est le premier*," are the words in which *Voltaire* has vaunted the beauties of the Lake of Geneva; and it must be confessed that, though it wants the gloomy sublimity of the Bay of Uri and the sunny softness of the Italian lakes, with their olive and citron groves, it has high claims to admiration. It also possesses great variety of scenery. The vine-covered slopes of *Vaud* contrast well with the abrupt, rocky precipices of *Savoy*. Near Geneva the hills subside, admitting an exquisite view of *Mont Blanc*, whose snowy summit, though 60 m. distant, is often reflected in its waters.

"Lake *Leman* woos me with its crystal face,
 The mirror where the stars and mountains
 view
 The stillness of their aspect in each trace
 Its clear depth yields of their far height and
 hue."

At its E. or upper extremity it extends to the very base of the high Alps, which by their close vicinity give its scenery a character of increased magnificence.

The boats on the lake are very picturesque, having lateen sails like the craft of the Mediterranean. It is generally calm, but not the dead calm of the mountain lakes; occasionally the bize, a cold E. wind, is very strong, and causes considerable motion in the steamers from Geneva until they get beyond *Lausanne*. The S.W. wind is described as still stronger. These are the only winds which materially affect the lake.

Among the fish of the lake trouts are rare; the *Lotte*, on which *Rousseau's* Julie makes her last repast, is described as "*une espèce de barbeau, assez fade, peu cher, et commun.*"

Rly. to Lausanne, 6 trains daily in 1½ to 2½ hrs.

The railway embankment has been carried along the edge of the lake, thus in many places marring its beauty, and interrupting the view, from the sloping banks and houses built on them.

The first part of the road out of Geneva lies among villas and pleasure grounds not unlike English country-seats. Few spots in Europe present so many admirable sites for a dwelling as the shores of Lake Lemman in full view of Mont Blanc. At Sécheron, on the lake, Sir Robert Peel has a villa, and at Prégny is Baron Adolph Rothschild's superb château. After a mile or two Mont Blanc is hid behind the intervening mountains of Voirons, and does not reappear until near Nyon.

The parish of *Versoir*, through which the road passes, formerly belonged to France. The Duke de Choisenl, minister of Louis XV., irritated with some proceedings of the inhabitants of Geneva, proposed to raise a rival city at Versoir which should deprive Geneva of its trade. A pier was projected into the lake to form a port, a grand Place was laid down, streets running at right angles were marked out; but beyond this the plan was never carried into execution. Hence the verses of Voltaire :—

“A Versoir nous avons des rues,
Mais nous n'avons pas de maisons.”

A little beyond Versoir (now an inconsiderable village) we pass out of the canton of Geneva into that of Vaud.

Coppet—(Inn: Ange)—a small village of 600 Inhab., only remarkable for the *Château*, immediately behind it, but so placed as to command no view of the lake. It is now the property of Madame de Staël Vernet. It is a plain edifice, forming three sides of a square, the front towards the lake being flanked with a tower at each end. It was the residence of Madame de Staël the author, as well as of her father, the French minister Necker. There are portraits of her by *David*, of her parents M. and Madame Necker, and a marble bust of M. Rocca, Madame de Staël's second

husband. One room is pointed out as the study in which the authoress of *Corinne* composed many of her works. Her inkstand and desk are still preserved. The grounds are traversed by shady walks; and a clump of trees surrounded by a wall, in a field a little to the W. of the house, shrouds from view a sort of chapel in which Necker and his daughter are buried.

Nyon (Inn: Couronne; not good), a town of 2682 Inhab., stands on a height; but its suburbs, through which the high road runs, extend down to the lake. It was the Roman Novidunum. From the Terrasse des Marronniers near the fine old château once the seat of the Bailli de Nyon, there is a very fine view.

[An excellent carriage-road ascends the Jura from this in zigzags to St. Cergues, from which the *Dôle*, the highest summit of this part of the chain of the Jura, can be most easily ascended. Mules and guides can be procured at the small Inn of St. Cergues, which affords tolerable accommodation for a night. The ascent requires about 3 hours; but it is neither fatiguing nor dangerous. “Perhaps there is no mountain in Switzerland which better repays the traveller for his fatigue, and no view more wonderfully extensive and admirably diversified than that which it commands.”]

Rolle. (Inns: Couronne; Tête Noire.) The hills around this village are covered with vineyards, producing a tolerable wine. One of the best Vaudois wines is grown on the slope between Rolle and Aubonne, called La Côte.

On the opposite shore of the lake is discerned the Gulf of Thonon, and the snowy head of Mont Blanc peering over the mountains of the Chablais, is visible all the way from Morges to Geneva. A little further on the rocks of Meillerie and the entrance of the Valais appear.

[A few miles above Rolle is *Aubonne*—Inns: Couronne; Lion d'Or)—an ancient town of 1667 Inhab., with an Eastern-looking *Castle*. Byron says of it—“The entrance and bridge

something like that of Durham: it commands by far the fairest view of the lake of Geneva (and of Mont Blanc behind it); a grove on the height of very noble trees. Here Tavernier, the Eastern traveller, bought (or built) the château, because the site resembled and equalled that of Erivan, a frontier city of Persia. Here he finished his voyages." The *Church* contains the monument of the brave French Admiral Duquesne, the conqueror of De Ruyter—the chas-tiser of the Turkish and Algerine corsairs, whose services Louis XIV. refused to recompense, and whose body that monarch for a long time denied to his son,—exiled to Aubonne by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, because Duquesne was a Protestant, and refused to adopt the king's religion. Aubonne is less than 3 m. distant from the lake. On the hills sloping down towards the lake called *La Côte*, between Aubonne and Nyon, grows the best Swiss wine, called *le Moulart*.

The *Signal de Bougy*—above Aubonne, 2730 ft. above the sea-level—is a celebrated point of view.]

Morges Stat. (*Inn*: La Couronne.) Close to the small port of this little town of 2800 Inhab. rises the picturesque *Castle of Wufflens*, distinguished by its tall white square donjon and group of minor turrets, built of brick, with deep machicolations, probably in the 13th cent. It is said to have been founded by Queen Bertha in the 10th cent. The carriage-road continues near the shore of the lake. The rly. turns inland to

Bussigny Junct. Stat. Here the rly. from Yverdun (Rte. 49) and Berne joins. Most of the trains from Geneva to Yverdun go on to Lausanne, and then back again to Bussigny.

The distant view of Lausanne, seated on sloping hills and surmounted by its cathedral and castle, is pleasing. Between it and the lake, at the distance of $\frac{3}{4}$ m., stands the suburb or village of *Ouchy*, which may be termed the port of Lausanne. (*Inns*: A very large house, the *Hôtel de Beaurivage*, under the management

of Mr. Alex. Rufenacht, formerly landlord of the H. des Bergues at Geneva;—Ancre;—Hôtel and Pension Bachoffner, good; both houses kept by an English landlady. Families may live here *en pension* at the rate of 30 or 40 fr. a week each person.) Lord Byron wrote the 'Prisoner of Chillon' in the Ancre inn, in the short space of *two days*, during which he was detained here by bad weather, June, 1816: "thus adding one more deathless association to the already immortalized localities of the lake." Omnibuses run between Ouchy and Lausanne in connexion with the steamers—fare $\frac{1}{2}$ fr., or 1 fr. with luggage.

Lausanne Stat.

LAUSANNE. (*Inns*: Faucon, very good; Hôtel Gibbon, finer position, good and clean, but bustling; Hôtel Richemont, near the rly. stat., a Pension; Bellevue, quiet, reasonable, and finely situated; H. du Nord: all these are first-class hotels. *2nd Class Inns*: Raisin, Trois Suisses. Hôtel du Grand Pont, in the town, commercial.)

Lausanne, capital of the canton Vaud, contains 20,515 Inhab. (670 Roman Cath.). The Pays de Vaud (Germ. Waadtland) was originally subject to the Dukes of Savoy, but, having been conquered by the Bernese, remained tributary to that republic for $2\frac{1}{2}$ centys., until 1798, when it acquired its independence, which, however, it retained in 1814 only by the payment of a large sum of money, and then became a member of the Swiss Confederation. The constitution was rendered more democratic by changes in 1830 and 1845; and it is now one of the cantons the most imbued with the revolutionary opinions common on the continent. The language spoken is French. 200,000 Inhab.; 192,000 Prot. The town, with its high roofs, castle, and cathedral, is itself picturesque, and is most picturesquely situated on the lower slope of the *Mont Jorat*, which sinks gradually down to the lake, intersected by several ravines, giving it the form of distinct eminences. From this cause the old streets

ranging over broken ground are a series of ups and downs: many are very steep. A causeway and viaduct, called from its builder *Pont Pichard*, or *Grand Pont*, have been made to span the valley from the front of the Hôtel Gibbon, and a winding road, carried on a level along its E. bank, renders the centre of the town and cathedral much more accessible than formerly.

The Castle and Cathedral are on an eminence in the old walled town, which is still called the *Cité*. Starting from H. Gibbon, and keeping to the rt. for a short distance, any of the streets up the hill to the l. will lead to

The Cathedral (at the foot of the flight of steps leading to it from the market-place ask for the keys of the door, kept at the sexton's house, No. 7), a very extensive building, and internally one of the finest in Switzerland, "was founded A.D. 1000, and traces of the original edifice may be noticed, but the actual building dates from 1275. The interior is singular in its construction, and very beautiful, though much altered by modern arrangements. On entering the nave, 2 wide arches are seen on the right and on the left; and these are succeeded, on each side, by 6 narrower arches. They are thus described by Mr. Willis:—Each alternate pier consists of 12 parts, or shafts—namely, 3 on each face for the vaulting of the nave and side aisles respectively, and 3 for the pier arches. But of the interposed ones, the first has coupled columns for the pier arch, and a lateral sub-shaft for its sub-arch; the next has a single round shaft for the pier arch, and a stout detached shaft in front of it, which, running up to the roof, carries 3 vaulting ribs in a group upon a round abacus; the next, with a similar arrangement for the pier arch, has a slender shaft in front, supporting the simple rib of a six-partite vault, of which this is the only compartment, the rest of the nave having quadri-partite vaults.'—The circular apse, at the eastern end, is singular

and complete, both as a continuation of the nave and of the aisles. The Triforium Gallery is carried continuously along the nave, the transept, and the apse; above it is a second gallery, equally complete, but it is arranged in compartments of triple arches, for the purpose of enabling it to conform to the openings of the windows. Within the central tower, but at a higher level, are 2 similar galleries, equally complete.

The transepts are quite different. One of them contains a fine rose window. The central tower was struck by lightning in 1825, and the spire and part of the stalls in the choir were burnt. The whole of the stalls were thereupon removed to Chillon Castle, the jubé taken away, and the church repaired and coloured internally with wash, which gives it a tame and monotonous appearance.

Among the monuments within the church are a mailed effigy of Otho of Granson;—the tomb of Victor Amédée VIII. (Voltaire's "*Bizarre Amédée*"), who was Duke of Savoy, Bishop of Geneva, and Pope under the title of Felix V., but resigned in succession all these dignities, preferring to end his days as a monk in the convent of Ripaille, on the opposite shore of the lake: it is much mutilated; of Bp. W. de Menthonex;—of Harriet Stratford Canning, by Bartolini;—of the mother of the Prussian Minister von Stein. Most of these monuments were foolishly removed from their proper places in 1828.

There is a beautiful view from the terrace at the W. end of the Cathedral, partially obstructed by the present prison, formerly the Archbishop's palace.

Ascending again to the N. of the Cathedral, we reach the *Château*, or *Castle*, a picturesque, massive square tower with 4 turrets at the angles. It was originally the residence of the Bishops of Lausanne, but is now converted into public offices, and entirely modernised internally. Two rooms, however, have been restored—not in the best taste—and are shown.

Passing out under the old archway

of the Château to the N., you may either ascend to the *Signal*, which lies straight before you, or turn to the rt., and walk along the road at the side of the ravine of the *Flon*—a walk which shows the picturesque buildings of Lausanne to advantage—and so return to the town. The large handsome building on the S. of the Cité is the Hospital.

In the *College*, founded 1587, not far from the Cathedral, is a *Cantonal Museum*, in which are some objects of interest,—such as a collection of minerals from Bex and a model of the salt-mines there. It is not deficient in the other branches of natural history. A specimen of the *silurus glanis*, one of the largest fresh-water fishes, came from the lake of Morat. Many *antiquties* discovered within the canton, at Aventicum, and Celtic remains from the Swiss Lakes and the borders of the Lake Lemman, also some relics of Napoleon, his Waterloo saddle, fowling-piece, &c., are preserved here.

There is also a *Picture Gallery* (*Musée Arlaud*) opposite the Corn Exchange, containing modern and ancient paintings.

The *Blind Asylum*, founded by the late Mr. Haldimann, an Englishman of Swiss descent, is admirably managed by Mr. Hirzel.

The house of Gibbon, in which he completed the *History of Rome*, was in the lower part of the town, behind the church of St. Francis, and on the right of the road leading down to Ouchy. Both it and the garden have been entirely changed. The wall of the Hôtel Gibbon occupies the site of his summer-house, and the *berceau* walk has been destroyed to make room for the garden of the hotel, but the terrace overlooking the lake, a lime and a few acacias, remain.

“It was on the day, or rather the night, of the 27th of June, 1787, between the hours of 11 and 12, that I wrote the last line of the last page in a summer-house in my garden. After laying down my pen I took several turns in a *berceau*, or covered

walk of acacias, which commands a prospect of the country, the lake, and the mountains. The air was temperate, the sky was serene, the silver orb of the moon was reflected from the waves, and all nature was silent.”
Gibbon's Life.

The *English Church service* is performed in an English chapel built in his grounds, on the road to Ouchy, by the late Mr. Haldimann.

The *Post and Telegraph office* is in the Place St. François, near H. Gibbon. Hignou and Co., 7, Rue de Bourg, have an excellent *Reading-room* well supplied with English papers, and a circulating library.

Railways to Yverdon (Rte. 49), Geneva, and Basle; to Freyburg and Berne. The Stat. is below the town, on the road to Ouchy.

Steamboats touch at Ouchy, the port of Lausanne, on their way to either extremity of the lake.

The neighbourhood of Lausanne is famous for the number and beauty of the walks which it presents. Here, and throughout the wine-growing districts bordering the lake, strangers must beware of the alleys and narrow walks between walls or high hedges, which abound in every direction. Appearing to lead up a hill, or to some favourable point of view, they are constantly closed at the end by a gate, with a notice against trespassers. The law is severely enforced against any one entering a vineyard without the owner's permission. Partial and pleasing glimpses of the lake are obtained from the *terraces* within the town, and from the fine boulevard of *Montbenon*, just outside the walls, on the old road to Geneva; but far more extensive and beautiful prospects are presented from the heights above the town. The best spot for an extensive survey is the elevated platform called the *Signal*, accessible to carriages. It lies nearly N. of the town, directly behind the Château. Near it is the extensive forest of Sauvabellin (*Silva Belini*), in which it is said the Druids once worshipped the god Bel, and

thence its name. There are a great number of country-seats in the vicinity; that of *Vernant* is highly praised; its grounds have the character of an English park, with the Alps and the lake in addition. Mont Blanc is not visible from the Signal, but may be seen from the top of the Jorat, on the road to Berne.

About 2 m. out of Lausanne, beyond the Calvaire, on the Berne road, is the Cemetery of *Pierre de Plain*. John Philip Kemble, the tragedian, is buried within it. His tomb is a plain flat slab, one of 9 or 10 in a row, all English graves. The house where he died is called *Beau Site*; the plantations were all laid out by himself.

A Celtic burial-ground has been discovered at *Bel Air*, near *Cheseaux*, 6 m. N.W. of Lausanne.

The Rly. to Vevay runs along the slope of the Jorat, here covered with vineyards (*Lavaux*), industriously terraced high up the hills extending to Vevay. The road continues in view of the lake, and is improved by levelling and widening, though at times narrow, and partly enclosed between the walls of vineyards, rendering it very hot in summer, being unsheltered by trees. Near Vevay, the gorge of the Rhone appears in sight, overlooked by the snowy peaks of the Dent de Midi.

At Pully an inferior sort of coal, abounding in sulphur, is dug from a mine in the hill-side.

Vevay Stat. (Germ. *Vivis*) *Inns*: *Trois Couronnes* (or *H. Monnet*), close to the lake: one of the best Inns in Switzerland, comfortable and clean: a very large house; *reading-room* well supplied with papers: charges not out of proportion with the comfort, but the traveller will frequently find it full, and the other hotels are far inferior. From Oct. 15 to May 1 you may live here moderately *en pension*. *H. du Lac Lemman*, small, clean, and comfortable: view over lake. Lodging 1 fr. 50 c.; dinner 3 frs.; breakfast

1 to 2 frs.; servants 50 c. The *Château de Vevay* is a respectable boarding-house. *Trois Rois*. Above the town, in the village of *Chardonnas*, is a good and reasonable pension, *H. Bellevue*.

Vevay, the Roman *Vibiscum*, is the second town in canton Vaud, and has 6600 Inhab. It is principally distinguished for the exceeding beauty of its situation, at the mouth of the gorge of the *Veveyse*, on the margin of the Lake Lemman, at a point where the scenery of its banks is perhaps most beautiful. The writings of *Rousseau* have contributed not a little to its celebrity in this respect.

From the little terrace at the end of the market-place, or from the roof of the *Trois Couronnes*, or, better still, from the villa called *Hauteville*, about 2 m. above Vevay, the eye surveys on the E. the village of *Clarens*, *Montreux*, *Chillon*; beyond it *Ville-neuve* and the gorge of the Rhone, backed by the gigantic Alps of the *Valais*, the *Dent de Midi*, and *Pain de Sucre* (neighbours of the Great *St. Bernard*); while on the opposite shore of the lake rise the rocks of *Meillerie*, surmounted by the peaks of the *Dent d'Oche*, and the village of *St. Gingough*, at the foot of the mountains. The walks in the immediate neighbourhood are somewhat dull, as the whole country consists of vineyards, surrounded by stone walls.

In the *Ch. of St. Martin*, a little above the town, situated amidst trees and vineyards, and used only in summer (date 1438), *Ludlow* the regicide is buried, as well as *Broughton*, who read the sentence of death to *Charles I.* They died here in exile, a price having been set upon their heads; and repeated applications were made to the canton of Berne to deliver them up, which the government very properly refused to accede to. *Ludlow's house* still exists on the road to *La Tour de Peilz*; he placed over his doorway this inscription—"Omne solum forti patria." The tablet is removed to England, and his house is now the

Pension Delessert. Most of the houses have had new fronts added towards the lake. *Pleasant walks* and views from the gardens of Mr. Couvreci: the Park of *Hauteville* 1½ m. N.E.

The *English Ch. service* is performed on Sundays in St. Clair at 11 and 3.30.

Physician.—Dr. Henri Curchod, speaks English.

C. Prost, watch and chronometer maker and bijoutier, is in good repute here.

Many excursions may be made from Vevay by land or water. Boats at 1 fr. the hour. *Chillon* is a morning drive (the route may be varied by taking the upper road).

Omnibus from Vevay to Chexbres Stat. to meet the trains from Berne and Freyburg. Ascent in 1½ hr.

The railroad from Vevay to Freyburg by Bulle is described Rte. 45.

The *wines* of the neighbourhood of Vevay, especially of the sunny district extending hence to Lausanne, and called Lavaux, enjoy a considerable reputation for Swiss wines. The Romans are believed to have first planted the vine on these hills; and the discovery of a stone inscribed "*Libero Patri Colliensi*" proves that they had erected a temple to Father Bacchus at Collium, a little village now called Cully, on the margin of the lake, between Vevay and Lausanne.

A society or guild of high antiquity, called *l'Abbaye des Vignerons*, exists at Vevay to promote the cultivation of the vine; and for this purpose it despatches every spring and autumn "experts," qualified persons, to survey all the vineyards of the district, and upon their report and testimony it rewards the most skilful and industrious vinedressers with medals and pruning-hooks (*serpes d'honneur*) as prizes.

In accordance with a custom handed down from very ancient times, which is possibly a relic of pagan superstition, this society celebrates once in 15 or 20 years a festival called *la Fête des Vignerons*. As many as 700 persons took part in the last festival, and one

of the ballet-masters of the French opera was employed to drill and instruct the rustics in dancing. The last anniversaries were in 1833, 1851, and 1865, and multitudes of spectators flocked from all parts to witness them.

The beautiful Pass from Vevay over the Dent de Jaman, and the road thence to Thun, in Rte. 42.

A pleasant shady path or char-road, interrupted at times by the Rlwy., on the slope of the hills, above the dusty highway, leads in 6½ m. to Montreux and Chillon.

About 2 miles off, on a swelling eminence overlooking the lake, stands the ancient *Castle of Blonay*, which has belonged to the same family for 700 years. Farther on, above Clarens, is *Chatelard*, another castle.

About a mile out of Vevay the hamlet of La Tour de Peilz, with a castle built at the water-side in the 13th century, is passed. 3 m. farther lies

Clarens, so sentimentally described by Rousseau in the *Nouvelle Héloïse*. It commands certainly one of the finest views over the lake—the mountains of the Rhone valley and of the opposite shore, but in itself is a poor village, far less attractive than many of its neighbours, and it probably owes its celebrity to a well-sounding name, which fitted it for the pages of a romance. Rousseau's admirers have puzzled themselves with endeavouring to identify the localities, though he has himself stated that they are "*grossièrement altérés*." The spot on which the beautiful "*bosquet de Julie*" is sought for is now a potato-field. Byron says that the trees were cut down by the monks of St. Bernard, and lavishes some unworthy and undeserved abuse upon those hospitable ecclesiastics; but he has forgotten to ask whether the bosquet really ever had any existence except in Rousseau's imagination. Byron, indeed, viewed the spot with a poet's eye, and the exquisite beauty of the surrounding scenery, which has been accurately described by Rousseau, called up all the poet's enthusiasm and inspiration.

"Clarens! sweet Clarens, birthplace of deep Love!

Thine air is the young breath of passionate thought:

Thy trees take root in Love; the snows above
The very glaciers have his colours caught,
And sunset into rose-hues sees them wrought
By rays which sleep there lovingly: the rocks,
The permanent crags, tell here of Love, who sought

In them a refuge from the worldly shocks
Which stir and sting the soul with hope that
woos, then mocks.

"Clarens! by heavenly feet thy paths are trod—

Undying Love's, who here ascends a throne
To which the steps are mountains; where the god

Is a pervading life and light,—so shown
Not on those summits solely, nor alone
In the still cave and forest; o'er the flower
His eye is sparkling, and his breath hath blown,

His soft and summer-breath, whose tender power
Passes the strength of storms in their most
desolate hour.

"All things are here of him; from the black pines,

Which are his shade on high, and the loud roar

Of torrents, where he listeneth, to the vines
Which slope his green path downward to the shore,

Where the bow'd waters meet him, and adore,
Kissing his feet with murmurs; and the wood,
The covert of old trees, with trunks all hoar,
But light leaves, young as joy, stands where it stood,

*Offering to him and his a populous solitude—

"A populous solitude of bees and birds,
And fairy-form'd and many-colour'd things,
Who worship him with notes more sweet than words,

And innocently open their glad wings,
Fearless and full of life: the gush of springs,
And fall of lofty fountains, and the bend
Of stirring branches, and the bud which brings

The swiftest thought of beauty, here extend,
Mingling, and made by Love, unto one mighty end.

"'T was not for fiction chose Rousseau this spot,
Peopling it with affections; but he found
It was the scene which passion must allot
To the mind's purified beings; 't was the ground

Where early Love his Psyche's zone unbound,
And hallow'd it with loveliness: 't is lone,
And wonderful, and deep, and hath a sound,
And sense, and sight of sweetness; here the Rhone

Hath spread himself a couch, the Alps have rear'd a throne."

In the chyard of Clarens (fine views) is buried Vinet the divine

(d. 1847). In the same place is a monument by the sculptor Imhof.

The swelling hills and vine-clad slopes, which form the banks of the lake nearly all the way from Geneva, here give place to beetling crags and woody precipices rising abruptly from the water's edge. The road sweeps in curves round the retired bays at their feet.

Vernex. H. du Cygne, good: pension, 4. fr.

Montreux. H. de Montreux. English service on Sundays at the parish church.

This village, seated on an eminence (l.) above the road, with its church spire a little apart from its houses, is much prettier in itself and in its situation than Clarens. It abounds in *Pensions* long established, and much frequented by foreigners. The best of these is the Pension Vaultier, in the village of Montreux, very well kept; another which is well recommended is the Hôtel des Alpes, at the hamlet of Territet. At Veytaux, an increasing place, is also the H. des Alpes, a large edifice. The usual charge at these pensions is 5 fr. a day; in some even less.

"It is celebrated as the most sheltered spot on the banks of the lake of Geneva, and the remarkable salubrity of its climate renders it desirable winter-quarters for invalids who cannot cross the Alps. The statistical researches of Sir F. d'Ivernois have shown that Montreux is the place in the world where there is the smallest proportion of deaths and of imprudent marriages."—*R.*

At *Glion*, at a considerable height, directly above Montreux, in a bracing situation for invalids, two hotels and pensions have been established. The largest and best situated of these is called the Rigi Vaudois. H. du Midi (Reuteler), good; charge 6 frs. a day, and $\frac{1}{2}$ fr. for service.

A good pension, with a fine view, is kept by E. Dufour-Delarottaz, at Bren, an hour's walk above Montreux.

About $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. from Montreux stands the picturesque and renowned *Castle of*

Chillon (Hotel and Pension *Bonnivard* is well spoken of), on an isolated rock nearly surrounded by deep water, but within a stone's throw of the shore and of the road, with which it communicates by a wooden bridge. It was built in 1238 by Amedeus IV. of Savoy, and was long used as a state prison, where, among other victims, many of the early reformers were immured. When Byron, in the 'Prisoner of Chillon,' described the sufferings of an imaginary captive, he was not acquainted with the history of the *real* prisoner, *Bonnivard*, prior of St. Victor, who, having rendered himself obnoxious to the Duke of Savoy by his exertions to free the Genevese from the Savoyard yoke, was seized by the Duke's emissaries, and secretly carried off to this castle. For 6 long years he was buried in its deepest dungeon, on a level with the surface of the lake. The ring by which he was attached to one of the pillars still remains, and the stone floor at its base is worn by his constant pacing to and fro. Byron afterwards wrote the sonnet on *Bonnivard*, from which the following lines are taken:—

'Chillon! thy prison is a holy place,
And thy sad floor an altar; for 't was trod
Until his very steps have left a trace
Worn, as if the cold pavement were a sod,
By *Bonnivard*! May none those marks efface!
For they appeal from tyranny to God.'

At length, in 1536, the Swiss wrested the Pays de Vaud from the hands of Charles V. of Savoy. *Chillon* was the last place which held out for him; but an army of 7000 Bernese besieging it by land, while the galleys of the Genevese assaulted it by water, soon compelled it to surrender, and *Bonnivard*, with other captives, was set free. The changes which had occurred during the years of his imprisonment almost realised the legend of the Seven Sleepers. He had left Geneva a Roman Catholic state, and dependent on the Duke of Savoy; he found her free, and a republic, openly professing the reformed faith.

The castle is now converted into a magazine for military stores; but the interior of the building is curious and well preserved, and the chapel is

particularly interesting. Strangers are readily conducted over other parts of it, and (independently of the associations connected with the building) will find much to interest them in it. There is the potence, a beam, black with age, extended across one of the vaults, to which the condemned were formerly hung. The *oubliette* is also shown, whose only entrance was by a trap-door in the floor above. There is a small spiral staircase of three steps; the prisoner found no fourth step, and was precipitated to a depth of 80 feet. The dungeon of *Bonnivard* is airy and spacious, consisting of two aisles, almost like the crypt of a church; its floor and one side are formed by the living rock, and it is lighted by several windows, through which the sun's light passes by reflection from the surface of the lake up to the roof, transmitting partly also the blue colour of the waters. Formerly it was subdivided into small cells by partition walls between the pillars. Byron inscribed his name on one of the pillars, and his example has been followed by many others, as Dickens, &c., but it is far more lastingly associated with the spot.

"Lake Leman lies by Chillon's walls;
A thousand feet in depth below
Its massy waters meet and flow;
Thus much the fathom-line was sent
From Chillon's snow-white battlement (??)
Which round about the wave enthrals;
A double dungeon wall and wave
Have made—and like a living grave
Below the surface of the lake
The dark vault lies wherein we lay;
We heard it ripple night and day.
In Chillon's dungeons deep and old
There are seven columns massy and grey,
Dim with a dull, imprison'd ray,
A sunbeam which hath lost its way,
And through the crevice and the cleft
Of the thick wall is fallen and left,
Creeping o'er the floor so damp,
Like a marsh's meteor lamp."

It is by this castle that Rousseau has fixed the catastrophe of his *Héloïse*, in the rescue of one of her children by Julie from the water; the shock of which, and the illness produced by the immersion, is the cause of her death.

Between Chillon and Yilleneuve,

10 minutes' walk from either, and a little above the lake, stands the *Hôtel Byron*, a large and well-managed hotel and pension, table-d'hôte liberal, and great cleanliness and civility; rooms lofty and airy. Hotel prices for passing travellers: charge for pension, 7½ fr. a day in summer, 5½ fr. in winter. This is the best stopping-place at the E. end of the lake. There are many delightful walks and rides in the neighbourhood.

The road to the hotel, from the Villeneuve Stat., crosses the rlwy. by a bridge, alongside which the rivulet *Tinière* is conveyed in an aqueduct. This is classic ground in the annals of geological science; for it is by the thickness of the delta formed by this little stream, through which the rlwy. passes in a cutting, that one of the earliest and most satisfactory proofs of the antiquity of man has been obtained. Not only has the entire delta been deposited by that rivulet, but it has also been equably deposited, as may be seen by the regularity of its composition exhibited by the rlwy. section.

Villeneuve Stat. (Inns: *Aigle Noir*; *Croix Blanche*; *H. du Port*, clean and low charges) is a small and ancient walled town of 1480 Inhab. (*Pennilucus* of the Romans), situated at the E. extremity of the lake, where the road quits its borders to enter the valley of the Rhone.

About a mile from Villeneuve lies a small island, one of three in the lake: it is thus mentioned by Byron in the 'Prisoner of Chillon':—

"And then there was a little isle,
Which in my very face did smile,
The only one in view;
A small green isle, it seem'd no more,
Scarce broader than my dungeon-floor;
But in it there were three tall trees,
And o'er it blew the mountain-breeze,
And by it there were waters flowing,
And on it there were young flowers growing,
Of gentle breath and hue."

The commencement of the valley of the Rhone is dreary and uninteresting. The low ground is a flat alluvial deposit, formed by mud brought down by the river, but drainage and

other improvements have redeemed it from the state of a barren and unwholesome morass. The encroachments of the land upon the lake, even within the period of historical record, have been very great. *Port Valais*, *Portus Valesiæ* of the Romans, in their time stood on the margin of the lake, but is now more than a mile and a half inland; the intervening tract has been gained since. The Rhone itself rushes along, in summer burdened with mud, very unlike the torrent of azure and crystal which bursts out of the lake at Geneva. Upon this plain, at the mouth of the valley of the Rhone, *Divico*, the first Helvetian chief mentioned in history, defeated, B.C. 107 (the 646th year of Rome), the Roman forces under *Lucius Cassius*, slaying their general and compelling his army to pass under the yoke.

The top of the mountain above *Yvoire* was thrown down by an earthquake, 1584. A wine of some reputation in Switzerland now grows on the slope.

It is worth while to go out at night and see the process of catching trout in the torrents, affluents of the Rhone, by means of a lantern and knife. The fisherman enters the water up to his middle, furnished with an oval lantern, water-tight, and having a long tube projecting from its top, which serves both as a handle and to convey air to the flame. This he plunges into the water; and when the fish, attracted by the light, approach, he slowly raises it towards the surface, until the trout, which follow, come within reach, when he deals them a deadly blow with the knife, which sends them dead to the bottom, to reappear in a few minutes and be thrown into a basket which the man carries behind him. In this way a considerable number of fish are caught.

ROUTE 56.

VILLENEUVE TO SION, BY MARTIGNY.—
RAIL.

Villeneuve to	Miles. hrs. min.	
Bex	15	0 35
St. Maurice	—	0 25
Martigny Stat.	11	0 44
Sion	18	0 50
	44	2 34

This rlwy. will open direct rlwy. communication from Paris by Geneva or Basle to the foot of the Simplon, as soon as the section from Sion to Brieg shall have been completed. The rlwy. is far preferable to the hot, monotonous, and dusty road up the Rhone valley.

Villeneuve has been described Rte. 55.

From Villeneuve the rlwy. goes through the flat valley of the Rhone, passing partly through fertile and well-cultivated fields, overshadowed by fine walnut-trees: the views up the ravines to the l. are fine.

Aigle Stat. — (*Inns*: a large new Hotel close by the stat.; also H. Victoria, very good)—a village of 1650 Inhab. (*Aquileia*.) Black marble is quarried near this. The Val des Ormonds opens behind Aigle. (See Rte. 43.)

Olion St. Tryphon Stat. Near this rises out of the valley of the Rhone a tower, 60 ft. high, of Roman origin. Between St. Tryphon and Colombières the Rhone is crossed by a suspension-bridge.

Bex Stat. (pronounced *Bey*)—*Inns*: l'Union; H. des Bains: neither very good: they comprise boarding-

houses and establishments of baths, supplied from a sulphureous spring rising in the vicinity, which causes Bex to be resorted to as a watering-place in summer. 4½ frs. a day for not less than a week, 3 fr. a day in winter for not less than a month, but wax-lights extra, which should be resisted;—Le Crochet, moderate. Guides, horses, and chars-à-banc for excursions among the mountains may be hired here.

Charpentier, the naturalist, is buried in the cemetery of Bex, his tombstone a boulder.

Bex, a village of 3000 Inhab., situated on the high road to the Simplon, is chiefly remarkable for its *Salt Mines* and *Salt Works*. Salt has been obtained from brine-springs here since the middle of the 16th century. For a long time they belonged to a merchant family of Augsburg named Zobel, but they are now the property of the government of the canton. Down to 1823 the brine-springs alone furnished the salt, and they were gradually failing, when M. Charpentier suggested the plan of driving shafts and galleries into the mountain in search of rock-salt. The result was the discovery of a large and rich vein of the mineral, which has been traced for a distance of 4000 ft. and for a height of 600 ft., varying in thickness from 2 ft. to 50 ft.; and the annual produce of salt is now augmented to 20,000 or 30,000 quintals. Strangers arriving at Bex commonly pay a visit to the mines, which are situated about 2 m. off in the valley of La Gryonne. A carriage road leads through most beautiful scenery to the entrance of the mines. The salt is obtained either from the brine-springs, six or seven of which, of various degrees of strength, burst forth in different parts of the interior of the mountain, or from the rock-salt, which, after being extracted by the help of gunpowder, is broken into pieces, thrown into large reservoirs, called *dessaloirs*, cut in the anhydrite rock (sulphate of lime without water) in the interior of the mountain, and there dissolved in water. Each reservoir is usually filled with water 3 times. The 2 first solu-

tions (lessivages) furnish a liquor with 25 or 26 per cent. of salt; the 3rd is much weaker, having only 5 or 6 per cent. The brine, either from the sources or from these reservoirs, containing above 20 per cent. of salt, is conveyed in pipes made of fir-wood at once to the boiling-house (*maison de cuite*); that which is less strong must be subjected to the process of graduation in the long buildings or sheds, open at the sides, which are passed at Bexvieux and Devins, between Bex and the mines. These evaporating-houses, or *maisons de graduation*, are filled up to the roof with stacks of fagots of thorn-wood, over which the salt water, after being raised to the roof by pumps, is allowed to trickle drop by drop. The separation of the water in passing through colanders, and its exposure to the atmosphere as it falls, produce rapid and considerable evaporation of the watery particles, while the gypsum dissolved in it adheres, in passing, to the twigs, and crystallizes around them. The water is thus made to ascend and descend several times; it becomes stronger each time, and at length is brought to the condition of saturated brine, fit for boiling in the salt-pans. It will easily be perceived how much fuel is thus spared by not subjecting the weak solution to the fire at first.

The principal mines are those called *Du Fondement* and *Du Bouillet*; the latter contains a gallery driven horizontally into the mountain for 6636 ft., $7\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high and 5 ft. wide. At 400 ft. from its entrance is the round *reservoir*, 80 ft. in diameter and 10 ft. deep, excavated in the rock, without any support to its roof. In it the weak water is collected, which requires to undergo the process of graduation. A little farther on is another irregular reservoir, 7933 ft. in extent, supported by pillars, and destined to hold the stronger brine fit for the salt-pans without undergoing any intermediate process.

Many beautiful minerals are obtained from the salt-mines of Bex—such as very clear crystals of selenite, muriacite, anhydrite, &c.

It occupies $\frac{1}{2}$ a day to visit the salt-mines. The neighbourhood of Bex abounds in *pensions* and little mountain *Inns*, where fine scenery, pure air, and tolerable living are obtained at a very cheap rate. That of **Mont-châlet*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. above the town, on the way to the salt-works, of Madame Bernard above Frenières, the *Châlet* Amiguet at Chésières, the house of Madame Rosen at Ollon, besides those hereafter noticed, all deserve to be mentioned.

[Many interesting expeditions may be made from Bex. One of these, by the Col de la Croix to les Iles, at the head of the Val des Ormonds, passes by Grion, where there is a rustic *Inn*, and the *Châlet de Villard*, a pension, recommended for its beautiful position and good accommodation, not, however, equal to that at the *Hôtel des Diablerets*. (See Rte. 43.) Another interesting excursion is to the Col de Cheville, at the foot of the *Diablerets*. (Rte. 58.) Starting early from Bex a practised mountaineer would find an interesting excursion by ascending to the small glacier de *Martinet*, below the topmost perpendicular crags of the *Dent de Morcles* (9513 ft.) In favourable weather a magnificent view of the Alps would be obtained.]

The Railroad, leaving Bex, approaches the Rhone, and crossing it joins the Savoy Rly. from Bouveret and the S. side of Lake Geneva (Rte. 57). The valley is here almost closed by a rocky barrier.

—“Journeying upward by the Rhone,
That there came down a torrent from the Alps,
I enter'd where a key unlocks a kingdom:
The mountains closing, and the road, the river
Filling the narrow space.” *Rogers.*

The *Railway* has now to be added to these to complete the scene presented to the traveller at the old *Bridge of St. Maurice*, which spans the rapid river with one bold arch 70 ft. wide, leaning for support on the rt. side upon the *Dent de Morcles*, and on the l. upon the *Dent du Midi*, whose bases are pushed so far forward as barely to leave room for the river.

The bridge, erroneously attributed

to the Romans, is not older than the 15th century, but may possibly rest on Roman foundations. It unites the canton Vaud with the canton Valais; and a gate at one end, now removed, formerly served to close the passage up and down: a circumstance alluded to in the lines of Rogers. Fortifications were erected by the Swiss in 1832 and 1847, above the road, to defend the pass.

No one can cross the bridge of St. Maurice without being struck with the change in the condition of the inhabitants of the two cantons. The neatness and industry of the Vaudois are exchanged, within the space of a few hundred yards, for filth and beggary, equally apparent in the persons and habitations of the Valaisans. Their physical condition is lamentable; no part of Switzerland is afflicted to a greater extent with the maladies of goitre and crétinism (§ 18), and the victims of them shock the traveller's sight at every step.

The Railway is carried past the old bridge and through a tunnel in the rock, crosses the Rhone by an iron bridge to reach the

St. Maurice Junct. Stat.,

At St. Maurice is the first station of the Ligne d'Italie Rly., which is to connect Geneva with the foot of the Simplon pass by the S. side of the lake. It is now open as far as Sion. Passengers to and from Bex change carriages here.

St. Maurice — (*Inn: *l'Union*) — a town of 1050 Inhab., occupying the site of the Roman Agaunum, squeezed in between the mountain and the l. bank of the Rhone. It owes its present name to the tradition that the Theban Legion, under the command of St. Maurice, suffered martyrdom here by order of Maximian, A.D. 302, because they refused to abjure Christianity.

The *Abbey*, the oldest Christian foundation among the Alps, established in the 4th century, founded in honour of *St. Maurice*, and endowed by Sigismund, King of Burgundy, was for many centuries one of the most celebrated of abbeys, and the town itself was the capital of one of the

Burgundian kingdoms. In the *Treasury* are preserved (if not removed lately?) an agate cameo cup of antique Greek art, and a bottle or ampoule of Saracenic workmanship, presented by Charlemagne; a crosier of gold, in the shape of a spire, the niches of it filled with figures an inch high, most elaborately worked; a chalice, given by Bertha Queen of Burgundy, and several besides, of a very early date. The *Church* was much damaged by fire in the 17th cent., and has been badly restored, but the tower is unaltered, and several Roman inscriptions are built into its walls.

On quitting the stat. we perceive on the right bank of the Rhone the Bath-house of *Lavey*, erected 1831 over a warm sulphureous spring discovered in the river bed, at the expense of canton Vaud. The water is employed in supplying medicinal baths, the healing properties of which are attributed to the quantity of azote gas contained in the water. Upon a projecting platform of rock considerably above the road, rises the *Hermitage of Notre Dame du Sax*. Lower down on the road is the chapel of *Veriolez*, raised on the precise spot of the Theban massacre (!), and covered with rude frescoes.

In the autumn of 1835 a torrent of mud descended from the *Dent du Midi* into the Valais near *Eviroz*. It cut a passage for itself through the forest which clothes the side of the mountain, snapping the stoutest trees short off like twigs. It covered the high road for a length of 900 ft., interrupting for some time the communication, and overwhelmed many fields and orchards, and some few houses; but no lives were lost, as the slow progress of the current allowed every one time to remove out of its way. On the 25th of August a violent storm of rain had burst upon the *Dent de Midi*, accompanied by thunder; and it is said that the lightning struck the peak several times. It is supposed that a mass of the mountain was loosened by the rain, and in falling broke

through and carried down with it a considerable part of a glacier. The rain and melting ice mixing with the fragments and with the débris of moraines converted the whole mass into a thick mud, which swept slowly downwards like a lava current. The sides of a cutting through which the line passes well shows its composition. Blocks of limestone of many tons weight, and some of them 12 ft. high, were carried along with it. It is a remarkable fact that the stream of mud contained scarcely one-tenth part of water; the fluidity of the mass was no doubt promoted by the character of the rocks and soil which covered the mountain, and which consisted of a black splintery limestone, shale, and loam. The wretched hamlet Evionnaz occupies the site of an old town, Epaunum, destroyed by a similar mud-torrent in 563.

This part of the valley has a dreary and barren aspect, from the quantity of bare gravel and broken rock strewed over it, and the traces of the terrible flood of 1852 are still very visible. A steady but not very heavy rain began at 2 A.M. 16 Sept. 1852, and continued without intermission for 36 hrs. It seems to have thawed the snow, for by 18 Sept. the rivers had swollen terribly; the bridge at Trient was carried away and deposited in a field below, and the valley from Martigny to Bex was laid under water, many of the fields being covered with débris, and ruined for years to come. About 2 m. from

Vernayaz Stat., about $6\frac{1}{2}$ m. from St. Maurice, 3 from Martigny, is the famous *Waterfall of the Salenche*, which here descends into the valley of the Rhone out of a narrow ravine, apparently excavated by its waters. The perpendicular descent of the stream is about 280 feet, but the final leap of the cascade not more than 120 feet. It is a fine object, both from its volume and height, visible from a considerable distance up and down. It is best seen in a sunny morning before 12 o'clock, when the iris, formed in the cloud of spray, hovers over it. The neighbouring village

of Mieville sends forth an importunate crowd of beggars and self-appointed guides to conduct travellers from the road to the fall, a distance of a few hundred yards.

Near Vernayaz we cross another stream, the *Trient*, descending from the Pass of the Tête Noire (up which a mule-path, very interesting for its scenery, has been made, converging upon the Tête Noire route to Chamounix, Rte. 141), and issuing out of a singular rent in the side of the valley. Some visitors climb up the l. side of the ravine, and, creeping to the edge, look down into the chasm, whose depths are worn smooth and hollowed out by the force of the water. A wooden gallery has been constructed from which travellers can obtain a good view of the gorge from below, in preference to the $\frac{1}{2}$ hour's climb to the top: charge for entrance 1 fr. Hence to Martigny is 2 m.

On the banks of this river a desperate action was fought in 1841 between the ultra-Catholics of the Upper Valais aided by Lucerne, and the men of the Lower Valais, in which the latter were defeated with considerable slaughter, and their partisans were subsequently banished till 1848.

On the outskirts of Martigny, upon a commanding rock, rises the *castle of La Bâtie* (irreverently likened by the late Albert Smith to "an insolvent lighthouse") formerly a stronghold of the archbishops of Sion; it was taken and burnt by George Supersax in 1518. The deep dungeon beneath its tall tower is only accessible by a trapdoor in the floor of the chamber above. The river Dranse passes out into the Rhone, between La Bâtie and

Martigny (*Inns*: Grande Maison, good and reasonable; Cygne; La Tour, oldest; Hôtel Clerc, English service here).

Martigny (Octodurus of the Romans) consists of two parts—the one situated on the Simplon road, the other, Bourg de Martigny, more than a mile distant up the valley of the Dranse. Its position on the high road of the Simplon, at the termina-

tion of the char-road from the St. Bernard, and the mule-path from Chamouni, renders it the constant resort of travellers. The scenery around is grand: a flat, open valley bordered by mountains of great boldness. It is a small town of no prepossessing appearance, 1520 ft. above the sea, placed near the spot where the Rhone receives the Dranse, a torrent by which Martigny itself and the village of Bourg de Martigny have been twice nearly destroyed, in 1545 and in 1818. Marks of the last inundation (Rte. 136) are still visible on the walls of many of the houses; and the massive construction of the lower walls of the post-house is designed to protect it from the effects of similar catastrophes. The bridge is one of the finest specimens of the Swiss covered wooden bridges, with the arch above the roadway. The monks of St. Bernard have their head-quarters in a *convent* within the town, from which the members stationed on the Great St. Bernard are relieved at intervals. The monastery of the Great St. Bernard is a journey of 10 hours from hence. (Rte. 135.)

[The valley of Chamouni may be reached in 7 or 8 hours by the Tête Noire (Rte. 141), or Col de Balme (Rte. 142). The Forclaz and the beautiful view from it is an easy walk.

From Martigny, or Sembranchier, in the valley of the Dranse, an easy and interesting excursion may be made to the summit of the *Pierre à Voir* (8123 ft.), a mountain in the range between the valley of the Rhone and the Val de Bagnes, $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. to ride up, 3 hrs. to descend if the last 2 leagues be accomplished in sledges (*traîneaux*) which are kept for the purpose. Two persons sit in a sledge; a guide acts as horse and runs down with it over the grass. It is an amusing and perfectly safe way of making the descent. An *Hotel* is built near the summit. There is a good mule-path all the way. The panoramic view from the top is exceedingly grand and comprehensive. Guide, 5 fr.; mule,

8 fr. It can be ascended equally well, if not better, from Saxon les Bains, which lies immediately at its foot.]

At Martigny the Rhone makes an abrupt bend, forming nearly a right angle. For many miles above the town, the bottom of the valley through which it flows is a flat swamp, rendered desolate and unwholesome by the overflowings of the Rhone and its tributaries, which, not being carried off by a sufficient declivity in their beds, stagnate, and exhale an injurious malaria under the rays of a burning sun, and generate gnats not much inferior to mosquitoes. Travellers do not suffer from the malaria, but the inhabitants of the valley are dreadfully afflicted with goitre (§ 18), crétinism, and ague; and the appearance of decrepitude, deformity, and misery arrests the traveller's attention at every step. A tolerable wine, called Coquempin, is grown upon the hills; the low flats produce little except rushes, rank grass, and alders. The mountains which here bound the valley have a bare and desolate aspect.

Saxon les Bains Stat. A new watering-place at the foot of the *Pierre à Voir*.

Riddes Stat. After crossing the Rhone the Railroad passes the foot-path leading to the Diablerets (Rte. 58), and soon after the twin castles of Sion appear in sight.

[Hence the *Haut de Cry* (9698 ft.), on the N. side of the valley, may be ascended. It was the scene of a deplorable accident on Feb. 28th, 1864. A Russian gentleman, M. Boissonet, and Mr. Gosset, with 4 guides, including Joseph Bennen, started for its ascent. The day was most enjoyable, and the party were in high spirits, and had easily arrived to within 400 ft. of the summit, when the snow-field on which they were crossing diagonally gave way suddenly above them, across a belt of enormous length. The huge avalanche hurried downward, bearing the party with it. During the descent Mr. Gosset was once overwhelmed, then found himself again on the surface; lastly, when the motion ceased, after a descent of 1800 ft., he

was again buried and was fast suffocating. The snow "regelated," to use the modern term, that is to say, compacted itself into ice (See *Introd.*, § 17) around him. His hands and wrists were fortunately disengaged. With failing powers he contrived to scratch away enough ice to admit air to his mouth. Three guides were happily uninjured, and they saw and released him; but M. Boissonet lay dead on one side of him, and poor Bennen on the other. Thus perished Bennen, the very best of Swiss guides; the companion of Prof. Tyndall, and of so many other members of the Alpine Club, and the leader in numerous first ascents of Peaks and Passes. The following passage by Mr. Hawkins, in 'Vacation Tourist,' has proved prophetic:—"Any one who has watched Bennen skimming along through the mazes of a crevassed glacier, or running like a chamois along the side of slippery ice-covered crags, axe and foot keeping time together, will think that (as Lauener said of his brother Johann, who perished on the Jungfrau) 'He could never fall, nothing would ever bring him to grief but an avalanche.'"

Ardon Stat., at the mouth of the Vale of the Lizerne. Here are iron-works.

Sion Stat. (Germ. *Sitten*).—*Inns*: Poste, landlord civil;—Lion d'Or. There is a comfortable *pension* 2 min. walk from Sion, kept by Madame Muston, (Protestant). Sion has no less than three extensive castles, which give the town a picturesque and feudal aspect from a distance. Those who have time may ascend in 20 min. to the highest of the three. *Tourbillon*, the castle seen on the l. in advancing from Martigny, built 1492, and long the bishop's residence, is now a complete ruin. The castle standing on the southern rock, called Valeria, now serves as a Catholic seminary. It contains the *Old Cathedral*, a mixture of Romanesque and of Early Pointed architecture. Among the objects worth notice are a very perfect roodloft of the 13th cent., a votive chapel to St. Catherine, and some old frescoes. The

present cathedral is in the town below, and close to it is the modern Bishop's Palace. The third castle, called *Majoria*, from the majors, or ancient governors of the Valais, its first occupants, was burnt in 1788 by a conflagration which destroyed the greater part of the town. In the *Jesuits' convent* is a collection of the natural history of the Valais.

The *Hospital*, under the care of the Sœurs de Charité, contains many victims of goître and crétinism.

Sion contains 2590 Inhab. and is the capital of the Valais (Germ. Wallis)—one of the most miserable and melancholy districts in northern Europe. It was formerly a flourishing country, as the ruins of the numerous castles and the remains of former splendour at Sion and Visp attest; and in the commencement of the 16th century the celebrated Matthew Schinner, Bishop of Sion, was a powerful prince, whose alliance was courted by all the sovereigns of Europe—principally, it is true, for the sake of procuring the services of the Swiss mercenaries. At present, with the exception of the hotels, nothing appears prosperous in the Valais itself or in the numerous lateral valleys, and the race of man seems to have deteriorated. It is said that Sion has been besieged and taken more than 30 times, and, like many Swiss towns, it has been burnt nearly down. There has been fighting very lately in the canton, and at present the democratic party prevail.

The Railway stops at present at Sion. *Diligence* to Brieg twice a day, starting on arrival of the trains.

Omnibus daily to Leuk Baths (Rte. 37).

S. of Sion the Val d'Erin stretches far into the main-chain of the Alps (Rtes. 129, 131).

Mule-path to Bex (Rte. 58).

The Simplon road, from Sion to Domo D'Ossola (Rte. 59).

ROUTE 57.

GENEVA TO MARTIGNY, BY THONON AND MEILLERIE, ALONG THE SOUTH SHORE OF THE LAKE OF GENEVA.

Steamers twice a day (touching at Belotte, Bellerive, Asnières, Hermance, Thonon, Evian, on S. shore of lake), in 5 hrs. to Bouveret, where passengers take the rly. to Martigny and Sion. Post-road from Geneva to Bouveret, 37 Eng. m.

This is the original Simplon road, but is now almost deserted, though from Evian to Bouveret the scenery is very grand, finer than that of the N. shore. Persons taking this route must remember that it lies through French territory, and that they become subject to a visit at the custom-house and inquiries for passports.

After quitting Geneva by the Quartier de Rive, a fine view opens out rt.; beyond the Salève rises the Môle, and the valley of the Arve is terminated by the Buet, by Mont Blanc and its glaciers. The shore of the lake is dotted over with villas of the Genevese. One of these, near the village of Cologny, the *Campagna Diodati*, is interesting as having been the residence of Lord Byron in 1816. He wrote here the 3rd canto of *Childe Harold* and the tragedy of *Manfred*.

Beyond the village of Corsier the Genevan territory is left, and we enter the ancient province of Chablais, now annexed to France, which extends along the lake as far as St. Gingough. A monotonous plain is traversed in order to reach

Douvaine. 10 m. farther is

Thonon—(*Inns*: H. de l'Europe, fair, adjoining the Terrace; Les Balances)—an ancient town of 3740 Inhab., originally capital of the Chablais.

On quitting Thonon we pass on the left, between the road and the lake, *Ripaille*, anciently an Augustine convent, founded by Amedeus VIII. of Savoy, in which he passed the latter

[*Switz.*]

portion of his life, having assumed the cowl of an Augustine monk. He abdicated, in turn, the dukedom of Savoy, the Papacy (into which he had been installed with the title of Felix V.), and the bishop's see of Geneva. He resided here after his second abdication, passing his time not in the austere penance of an anchorite, but, according to the popular belief, in ease, feasting, and dissipation. Hence the French proverb — “*Faire Ripaille*.” Recent historical investigations, however, make it probable that, even to the last, he had not abandoned the path of ambition, and that, far from being inactive and exclusively devoted to luxury, he was still weaving political intrigues. The castle, with 7 towers, built by Amedeus for himself and the six knights whom he chose as companions, has nearly disappeared. The relic of the convent is converted into a farmhouse.

A long bridge of 24 arches carries the road over the Dranse, a torrent descending from the mountains of the Chablais, and augmented to a large volume by the melting snows during a small part of the year.

[There is a char-road up the valley of the Dranse by some gypsum-works, after which it passes through numerous villages to La Vernaz, 3 hrs., and by the ruins of the Abbey of *Aulph*, to *Morzine*, 7 hrs. from Thonon. Ascending from thence nearly due S. either by the *Col de Jouxplane*, or the *Col de Golèze*, Samoens in the Val de Sixt (Rte. 143) may be reached through very beautiful scenery in about 3½ hrs. At the *Châlets de la Golèze*, a little S. of the summit (height about 5600 Eng. ft.), refreshment and indifferent night quarters may be found in case of need. Tanninges (Rte. 143) may be reached in 10 hrs. from Thonon, by St. Jean d'Aulph and Gets. A rough char-road. Monthey on the rly. to Martigny may be reached from Morzine either by the *Col de Coux* (see Rte. 144), or by the *Col de Champéry*, which enters the Val d'Iliez below the village of Champéry. Two other passes—the *Col de Chesery*, from *Montriond* below

Morzine, and the *Col d'Abondance*, reached by the E. branch of the Dranse, lead to *Morign* (an Inn with mineral baths), and from thence in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. to Monthey.]

Through groves of magnificent chestnut-trees we pass *Amphion*, H. de Casino, a gay watering-place frequented by the Genevese, where are baths supplied by a chalybeate (? sulphur) spring, and reach

Evian (Inns: H. des Bains, good; H. Eaubonne, near the lake and steam-boats; H. du Nord; Poste: in all, 6 hotels, and 40 lodging-houses), a town of 3000 Inhab., at the water-side, much improved of late, and resorted to for its mineral waters. Dr. C. Depraz, resident physician, may be trusted. He served in the Crimea on our medical staff. *Steamer* to Lausanne.

The *Rocks of Meillerie*, celebrated by Rousseau and Byron, were, under the orders of Napoleon, and with the help of gunpowder, blasted to form a passage for the magnificent road of the Simplon, which is here carried partly through them, partly on a terrace 30 or 40 feet above the lake. Previous to its construction, the little village of Meillerie was barely accessible, except by boats. About a mile off the shore, at Meillerie, the lake attains its greatest depth, 920 Fr. ft. Here Byron was nearly lost in a storm. Rousseau, in the N. Héloïse, has conducted St. Preux and Mad. Wolmar also to this port for shelter from a tempest. On the opposite shore is seen Clarens, and the white wall of the castle of Chillon (Rte. 55).

St. Gingough—(Inn: Poste, an enormous building, once a convent, not good. Mosquitoes very troublesome all along the S. shore of the lake. A deep ravine here divides Savoy from the Swiss territory of the Valais; travellers entering from the Valais are subjected to French custom-house regulations here.

Bouveret, restaurant at Stat. (Inn: La Tour), lies within the valley of the Rhone, here a broad, flat, dreary swamp. Port Valais, in the days of the Romans, stood on the waterside; all the ground between

it and the lake has been produced since the records of history, by the deposits of the river. At Porte du Siex the rocks on the rt. encroach so far upon the Rhone as barely to leave a passage for the road at their base. Advantage was taken of this pass in ancient times to construct a fort with loopholes for arrows, and embrasures for cannon, which effectually closed the entrance to the Valais, the only passage being over its draw-bridge and through its gate. At Porte du Siex is a bridge over the Rhone. A road leads from it to Villeneuve on the opposite side of the lake, by Chessel and Noville across the plain, strewn with hillocks and débris of limestone, the remains of a landslip from the Grammont, 7000 ft. high, on the l. bank of the Rhone, A.D. 563. A huge fragment from the summit of the mountain fell down the ravine of Evouettes, all across the valley as far as Roche and Rennaz, burying a Roman station, so as to dam up the Rhone and form a temporary lake, reaching up to the rocks of St. Tryphons, which at last burst its barrier near Porte du Siex.

The railway has been completed from Bouveret to Martigny and Sion. The same company are carrying on the line from Bouveret to Geneva along the S. shore of the lake. The lake steamers set down passengers for the railway; station on the wharf at Bouveret.

! Bouveret lies in a marsh, avoid sleeping here. Four trains daily, in $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. to St. Maurice. *Steamer* daily to Vevay.

The canal of Stockalper, running nearly parallel with the road, was cut about a century ago, to drain this portion of the valley. At Vouvry is a good country Inn.

Vionnaz. Above this village are some most remarkable boulders.

Monthey Stat. (Inn: Croix d'Or, clean and moderate). [Behind this village is the Val d'Illiez, extending towards the Dent du Midi; good road. The Dent du Midi (Lonfats) is an excellent hotel, at *Champéry* in the upper part. In a lateral valley

opening up to the W. 2 m. above Monthey are the baths of *Morjin*, pension 4½ fr. a day, accommodation indifferent.] (See Rte. 144.)

Evionaz. Owing to an abrupt bend in the valley, and a projecting rock which hides the upper portion from view, the road comes suddenly upon

St. Maurice Junct. Stat. (Rte. 56). Here the rly. from Geneva, by Lausanne and Vevay falls in.

Martigny (Rte. 56).

ROUTE 58.

BEX TO SION, BY THE COL DE CHÉVILLE—DIABLERETS.

	H. M.
Bex.	
Grion	2 15
Soulalex	1 45
Anzeindas	1 15
Col	0 45
Derborenze	1 0
Bridge	0 40
St. Bernard	1 30
Sion	1 40
	<hr/> 10 50

This is a highly interesting pass, both from the geological phenomenon of its Berg-fall, or mountain slip, and for the extreme picturesqueness of its scenery; the pass is, however, long, and from Grion to Avent there is no inn: this is probably the reason why the whole region of the Diablerets, though yielding to few in ruggedness and in commanding views over the Alps, has been unvisited and neglected. [The Diablerets, 10,670 ft., can be ascended from Grion, sleeping one night at the châteaux of Anzeindas: guides at Grion.] As the pass is long, it is advisable to sleep at Grion, 2¼ hrs. from Bex; or, as the accommodation there is indifferent, some will prefer to start before daylight in a char for that village. Bex is described in Rte. 56. An excellent carriage-road

has been made from Bex to Grion, ascending the heights by numerous zigzags; the pedestrian will, however, probably cut off most of these by taking the old mule-path which continually crosses the carriage-road. Carriage from Bex to Grion 8 fr. The pedestrian will follow the river Avençon for about a mile to Bévieux, where are some salt-works: the road then leaves the river, and, after keeping rather to the N., begins to ascend the heights on the rt. bank of the stream; part of the road is beautifully shaded by woods of fir, beech, or walnut, and part is through vineyards and fields. The ascent is tedious by the road, steep and rugged by the paths.

Grion, prettily situated on the slope of the mountain high above the river, is a regular Swiss village. There are 2 homely but cheap inns (*Croix Blanche*, best) and a boarding-house, where as many as 50 persons are accommodated in the season. The situation is healthy, goître and crétins unknown. Side-saddles are to be had; a mule to the Col 7 fr., 1 fr. *bonne-main*. There is little advantage, however, in taking a mule beyond the Col, as it could not be used during great part of the way from the Col to Avent, where mules are to be found. A guide charges 12 fr. to Sion, but a pedestrian well accustomed to mountains can find the way without a guide. After leaving Grion the road which might be traversed by a char for the first 2 hrs., keeps high above the river, and enters further into the valley of the Avençon, running nearly due E., and passing by numerous châteaux and houses, through green meadows surrounded by fir-trees and overhung by precipices, through beautiful pastoral scenery. The road is tolerably level, and about 1¼ hr. from Grion crosses the stream to the l. bank, then goes through fine shady woods for about 20 min., and crossing the stream again reaches the châteaux of *Soulalex*, beautifully situated in a green plain with spruce firs all round, and tremendous precipices above the

firs. The road now keeps a little to the l., and rapidly ascends a narrow ravine to the châteaux of *Anzeindas*, which are situated on tolerably level ground. In one of these is a room where it would be possible to sleep, but the traveller must not depend on finding food, as the pass is little used. From this a moderate ascent over the green pasture under the precipices of the Diablerets leads to the Col de Chéville (6686 ft.). By ascending the mound on the rt. of the Col, a fine view is obtained of the great chain of the Alps to Monteleone, and towards the S. of the bare peaks of the *Tête de Gros Jean* and *Grand Moevran*. The descent from the Col turns at first to the rt., then to the l., and is very steep and rugged; there is no particular path, but it is not easy to miss the way. In about 30 min. from the Col the châteaux of *Chéville*, on a tolerably level space covered with rocky fragments, are reached. A little *Inn* was lately built here. Keeping along the stream a short distance farther, and then bearing to the rt., a very steep descent through trees leads to the little *Lac de Derborenze*, and the châteaux bearing the same name. The valley here is nearly filled by the wreck of the fall of the *Mont Diablerets*, a name given to the spot by the peasantry, it is said, because they regard it as the vestibule of hell. This mountain is composed of limestone strata, much deranged and steeply inclined. The lower beds, being soft and shaly, are disintegrated by the infiltration of water from the vast glaciers on the N.E.; and, after the supports and foundation are thus removed, large masses are detached from the mountain into the valley below, forming éboulemens of the most tremendous kind. During the last century two catastrophes of this kind occurred, in 1714 and 1749. By the former, 15 human beings, 100 head of cattle, and 55 châteaux were buried. Subterranean noises, produced by the commotion in the mountain, gave warning for several days beforehand, so that most of the peasants and their cattle removed out of the

way. One man belonging to the village of *Avent* was overwhelmed in a châlet on the mountain, but escaped being crushed to death by two masses of rock forming an angle over it. He managed to support life upon a store of cheese laid up for the winter, and with water from a brook which found its way through the fallen rocks. After many weeks passed in the dark, he at length, by creeping and scratching among the rocks, formed a passage through which a gleam of daylight appeared, and through it succeeded at length in working his way out, returning to his friends after having been lost for 3 months. At the moment of the fall, the surrounding district shook as with an earthquake, a thick cloud of dust rose high into the air from the friction of it, masses of rock were hurled a distance of 6 miles, and the current of air produced by it threw down trees which were not touched by the fall itself. The inhabitants of one of the neighbouring villages enjoy daylight at a certain season of the year several minutes earlier than they did before the event. The fall of 1749 arrested the course of the *Liserne*, forming the little lake of *Derborenze*.

The path keeps to the W. side of the lake, and traverses for more than an hour a wilderness of rubbish and fallen rocks. A little care is required to keep the track. The scene is one of the utmost desolation; overhead towers the ridge of the Diablerets, 10,670 ft. above the sea-level. Three of its five peaks have already fallen, and the two which remain threaten, sooner or later, to follow. The mountain is again rent with fissures, and scarcely an hour passes in which a slight noise is not heard or a fragment of stone does not fall. The accumulated débris of the mountain is said to cover a space of 8 miles. The traveller will be reminded strongly of a *Cirque* in the *Pyrennes*. The path winds round the mountain to the rt., and in about 35 min. from *Derborenze* crosses the *Liserne* by a little bridge. There is no house near the spot; in fact there is none from *Der-*

borenze to Avent. After about 20 min. more of rocks and stunted firs the path begins to rise on the l. bank along the precipices which border the Liserne. For the next 2 m. the path is a mere ledge, sometimes cut out of the face of the rock, sometimes built up, and overhanging sheer precipices of some 1200 ft. down to where the Liserne is roaring in the chasm below. Though there is no danger, the path is very narrow and far more formidable than that of the Gemmi. The path now passes through some beautiful beech-woods, still upon a steep slope, and then reaches the little chapel of St. Bernhard, whence there is a fine view of the great chain of the Alps. Here the valley of the Liserne is left; the path turns to the E. and descends rapidly to the village of *Avents* about 20 min. from St. Bernhard; thence to *Conthey*, where is an inn; and thence to the high road at the bridge of the Morge, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Sion. A guide would show a pleasanter way through by-paths from Avent.

	H. M.
Bridge over Morge	0 40
St. Bernhard	1 40
Bridge over Liserne	1 45
Derborenze	1 0
Col de Chéville	1 20
Soulalex	1 0
Grion	1 15
Bex	1 30
	<hr/> 10 10

There is also a path from Ardon, on the rt. bank of the Liserne, 3 or 4 m. farther from Sion; but the road is said to be as long as that by Conthey.

ROUTE 59.

PASSAGE OF THE SIMPLON. SION TO DOMO D'OSSOLA.

Post-road: Sion to Domo d'Ossola
 $8\frac{3}{4}$ posts = 78 miles. Railway in progress from Sion to Brieg.

	Posts.	Eng. m.
Sion.		
Sierre	$1\frac{1}{4}$	= 10
Turtman	1	= 9
Visp	1	= 9
Brieg	$\frac{1}{2}$	= $5\frac{1}{2}$
Berisal	1	= 9
Simplon	$1\frac{1}{2}$	= 15
Isella	1	= 9
Domo d'Ossola	$1\frac{1}{4}$	= $11\frac{1}{4}$

With post-horses the journey may be accomplished easily in $1\frac{1}{2}$ day, resting 1st night at Brieg, 2nd at Domo.

Until the *Railway*, Sion to Brieg, is finished—*Diligences* daily to Domo, and thence to Arona, where the rly. is taken to Milan.

Sion is described in Rte. 56.

Passing opposite the opening of the Val d'Erin or Eringenthal (see Rte.

Route reversed. — Mules can be taken from Sion to the Col (a good 7 hrs.), and, if necessary, on to Grion. The pedestrian should take the diligence or a char to the bridge over the Morge or to Vetroz. He will see his path as far as the chapel of St. Bernhard plainly marked on the face of the mountain. When about 2 hrs. beyond the chapel he must look out for the bridge on the l. and cross the Liserne. The path through the rocks is not very clear after this, and most travellers will be the better for a guide. Bearing round the mountain to the l., he will find the Derborenze. Crossing the bridge above it, the ascent begins immediately behind the chalets, and is very steep for 15 min., then along a little valley for 20 min., then very steep and rugged to the Col, turning at last towards the rt. From the Col the path cannot be mistaken. Time actually occupied, exclusive of stoppages, ascending moderately, descending faster—

131), through scenery rather less monotonous than that of the valley between Martigny and Sion, the first town reached is

Sierre (Germ. Siders).—*Inn*: Soleil (Post), good. 1100 Inhab. Smelting furnaces here.

[A steep but romantic path leads to the Baths of Lööche, turning out of the post-road a little way beyond the town, before reaching the bridge. (Rte. 37.)

Beyond *Sierre* another valley stretches S. into the main-chain of Alps, the very interesting Val d'Anniviers or Einfisch Thal. Its entrance from the Valais is so small that its very existence is said to have remained unknown until the 12th century, when the Bishop of Sion discovered it, and converted its inhabitants from heathenism! (Rte. 129.)]

The post-road, after crossing the Rhone, and winding for some distance among irregular hillocks, passes, on the rt. bank of the river, at the mouth of the gorge of the Dala, the picturesque village of Leuk (Rte. 37).

Pfynn (*ad fines*) is on the boundary between the German language, which prevails above this, as far as the source of the Rhone, and the French, which is spoken below this. The *Pfing*er Wald, behind *Sierre*, is a strong military position, stoutly defended against the French in 1798.

Süsten, where there is a small but comfortable hotel.

Tourtemagne (Germ. Turtman).—*Inns*: *Poste; Soleil, fair. The *Turris Magna*, from which the place is named, is now used as a chapel. 15 minutes' walk behind the inn is a *Cascade* of some repute. The volume of water is considerable, and its height by actual measurement is 150 ft. Though on the whole inferior to the fall of the *Sallenche* near Martigny, it is still worthy of a visit by those who are amateurs of waterfalls: the scene is interesting on account of its entire seclusion. The neighbourhood is overspread with marshes and stagnant pools, and the road is frequently flooded by the swollen Rhone. [The

wild gorge behind the town leads up to the Turtman Thal (Rte. 129).]

Visp or *Vispach* (Fr. *Viège*) (*Inns*: Post; Soleil, better and cheap). Some persons object to sleep at Visp, owing to an apprehension of malaria arising from the floods in the Rhone valley, and at some seasons this fear is probably well founded. Travellers bound for Zermatt (Rte. 127) may break the journey at Stalden, or at St. Nicholas, or Randa.

A poor village (2410 ft. above the sea), finely situated at the entrance of the Visper-Thal, up which the Balfrinhorn and its glaciers are to be seen. It was once the seat of numerous noble families, which have all disappeared, leaving only their large houses, now inhabited by poor people, to attest the fact. There are 2 large churches, the upper one finely situated. The lower ch. was formerly the ch. of the nobles, and ultimately became the property of the family of Blandrath, the last of the noble families. The lands belonging to the inhabitants have suffered severely from the devastation of the Visp and the Rhone, and the town now presents a miserable appearance. Its misery was increased by an earthquake, which began on July 25, 1855, with a very severe shock, and lasted with diminished force for several months, leaving only 7 houses in Visp habitable, and forcing the inhabitants to encamp. Nearly all the ceilings in the town fell, amongst others that of the nobles' ch., which remained in ruins in 1859. The Poste Inn suffered severely; and cracks in many of the houses are still to be seen. Visp was the centre of the earthquake, which was felt over an area of 300 miles N. and S., 250 E. and W.

The Gamsen and other torrents which fall into the upper end of the Valais are very dangerous neighbours to the villages and cottages on their banks. The bed of the river Visp is nearly 13 ft. above a part of the village, and the Saltine is nearly 11 ft. higher than Brieg. The miserable and poverty-stricken inha-

bitants are in consequence obliged to construct very considerable dykes to restrain them, but even these defences are liable to destruction every 2 or 3 years.

The desolation which the torrents spread over the fields, by their débris, will attract the remark of every traveller; and the evil is constantly increasing, as the beds of the torrents rise as fast as the dykes are raised to restrain them, till they flow along the top of a colossal aqueduct or wall of loose rocks, which the road ascends and descends like a hill.

On the road to Brieg glimpses of the Nesthorn and the fine range of peaks in its neighbourhood are occasionally to be had, as the road passes opposite the narrow glens that open into that little-visited range.

The ascent of the Simplon originally began at Glys, a village distinguished by its large church and *charnel-house* filled with skulls!—10,000 at a rough computation. Now, however, a détour of about 1 m. is made to pass through

Brieg—Inns: Poste; H. d'Angleterre, clean and good; H. du Simplon. Brieg is the usual halting-place of travellers before or after crossing the Simplon. It is a small town of 751 Inhab., situated on a sunny slope by the side of the Saltine, and overlooking the course of the Rhone, which here makes a sharp bend. The most conspicuous buildings are, the château of the family Stockalper, whose 4 turrets are crowned with tin cupolas, and the *Jesuits' College*. There is also an *Ursuline Convent*.

[The upper valley of the Rhone above Brieg is accessible by a good char-road as far as the Rhone glacier. The routes to the Grimsel and Gries; to the Eggischhorn and to the Bel Alp, are described in Rte. 28.]

For the passage of the Simplon voituriers charge from 60 to 70 fr. from Brieg to Domo. The distance is about 44 Eng. m. Travellers wishing to send luggage into Italy by the diligence must consign it at the Post-office on the evening before. The keys must be sent tied or fastened to

the outside of each piece of luggage, otherwise the luggage will be detained at the Italian Custom-house at Isella. Luggage often miscarries.

On foot the distance may be shortened, but it will require full 12 hrs.' steady walking. The footpaths and short cuts require a guide. N.B. In September the diligence does not reach the finest part of the pass till dark.

The construction of a route over the Simplon was decided upon by Napoleon immediately after the battle of Marengo, while the recollection of his own difficult passage of the Alps by the Great St. Bernard (at that time one of the easiest Alpine passes) was fresh in his memory. The plans and surveys by which the direction of the road was determined were made by M. Céard, and a large portion of the works was executed under the superintendence of that able engineer. It was commenced on the Italian side in 1800, and on the Swiss in 1801. It took 6 years to complete, though it was barely passable in 1805, and more than 30,000 men were employed on it at one time. To give a notion of the colossal nature of the undertaking, it may be mentioned that the number of bridges, great and small, constructed for the passage of the road between Brieg and Sesto, amounts to 611, in addition to the far more vast and costly constructions, such as terraces of massive masonry miles in length; of 10 galleries, either cut out of the living rock or built of solid stone; and of 20 houses of refuge to shelter travellers, and lodge the labourers constantly employed in taking care of the road. Its breadth is throughout at least 25 ft., in some places 30 ft., and the slope nowhere exceeds 1 in 13.

To use the eloquent words of Sir James Mackintosh, "the Simplon may be safely said to be the most wonderful of useful works, because our canals and docks surpass it in utility, science, and magnitude, but they have no grandeur to the eye. Its peculiar character is, to be the greatest of all those monuments that at once dazzle the imagination by their splendour, and are subservient to general conve-

nience." Excepting the Cenis, this was the first carriage-road carried across any of the higher passes of the Alps. Its cost averaged about 5000*l.* a mile. In England the average cost of turnpike-roads is 1000*l.* per mile. It was the wonder of its day; but the triumphs of modern engineering are greater. The object of Napoleon in its formation is well marked by the question which, on two different occasions, he first asked of the engineer sent to him to report progress—"Le canon quand pourra-t-il passer au Simplon?"

Once from the Simplon begins at once from *Brieg*. About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile above the town the road leaves, on the rt., the lofty covered bridge over the Saltine, now little used, since most vehicles make the détour by *Brieg* instead of going direct to or from *Glys*, whither this bridge conducts. The road then makes a wide sweep, turning away from the *Glyzhorn*, the mountain which bounds the valley on the rt., towards the *Breithorn*, on the opposite side, approaching a little hill dotted with white chapels and crowned by a calvary. It then again approaches the gorge of the Saltine, skirting the verge of a precipice, at the bottom of which the torrent is seen at a vast depth, forcing its way among black and bristling slate rocks, which seem still shattered by the convulsion which first gave a passage to its waters. At the upper end of the ravine, high above his head, the traveller may discern the glaciers under which the road is carried, but which he will require at least 3 good hours to reach, on account of the sinuosities of the route. Looking back, he will perceive the valley of the *Rhone*, as far as *Turtman*, spread out as a map at his feet; *Brieg* and *Naters* remain long in sight. It is a constant pull against the collar from *Brieg* to the second refuge. Here the road, carried for some distance nearly on a level, is compelled to bend round the valley of the *Ganther* until it can cross the torrent which traverses it by another lofty bridge, called *Pont du Ganther*. The upper end of this

wild ravine is subject to avalanches almost every winter, the snow of which nearly fills it up, and reaches sometimes to the crown of the arch. This bridge is left uncovered, from the fear justly entertained by the engineers that the terrific gusts or currents of air which accompany the fall of an avalanche might blow the arch entirely away, were much resistance of flat timber-work presented to it. The road originally traversed a gallery cut in the rock near this, but it has been removed. After crossing the bridge the road turns down the opposite side, and then ascends by a zigzag to the third refuge, called

Béresal, or *Persal*, an *Inn*, consisting of 2 buildings connected by a roof across the road, where 16 post-horses are kept, affording tolerable fare and beds. It may be reached in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours from *Brieg*.

The first gallery which the road traverses is that of *Schalbet*, 95 ft. long—3920 ft. above *Glys*. Near this and hence to the summit, should the sky be clear, the traveller's attention will be riveted by the glorious view of the *Bernese Alps*, which bound the *Valais* and form the rt.-hand wall of the valley of the *Rhone*. The glittering white peaks of the *Breithorn*, *Aletsch-hörner*, and *Viescher-hörner*, are magnificent objects in this scene, while below them two strips are visible of the glaciers of *Aletsch*, the most extensive in the Alps.

Fifth Refuge, called *Schalbet*.—"Here a picture of desolation surrounds the traveller. The pine has no longer the scanty pittance of soil which it requires for nourishment; the hardy but beautiful Alpine flower ceases to embellish the sterile solitude; and the eye wanders over snow and glacier, fractured rock and roaring cataract, relieved only by that stupendous monument of human labour, the road itself, winding along the edges of precipices, penetrating the primeval granite, striding over the furious torrent, and burrowing through dark and dripping grottoes beneath accumulated masses of ice and snow."—*Johnson*.

The portion of the road between

the fifth refuge and the summit is the most dangerous of all, at the season when avalanches fall and tourmentes arise, on which account it is provided with 6 places of shelter viz. 3 galleries, 2 refuges, and a hospice, within a distance of not more than $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile. The head of the gorge of Schalbet, a wild recess in the flanks of the Monte Leone, is filled up with glaciers, beneath which, along the edge of a yawning abyss, the road is necessarily conducted. These fields of everlasting ice, forming the Kaltwasser glacier, in the heat of summer feed 5 or 6 furious torrents, the sources of the Saltine, and in winter discharge frequent avalanches into the gulf below. To protect this portion of the road 3 galleries, called, from their vicinity to the glaciers, *Glacier Galleries*, partly excavated, partly built of masonry strongly arched, have been constructed. By an ingenious contrivance of the engineer, they serve in places as bridges and aqueducts at the same time, the torrents being conducted over and beneath them; and the traveller is surprised to find his carriage suddenly driven in perfect safety underneath a considerable waterfall. These galleries have been recently extended far beyond their original length, for greater security. In the spring the avalanches slide over their roofs.

The pedestrian, ascending from Brieg, may shorten his way to the summit by at least 5 m. by following the old horse-track, which mounts the gorge of the Saltine, and entirely avoids the détour to Bérisal. The path is steep, the scenery far less interesting, and the way is, or was a few years ago, not easy to find, as the old path had in some places been carried away. An unpractised mountaineer going without a guide might easily get himself into serious difficulties.

A simple cross of wood, a few yards above the Sixth Refuge, marks the highest summit or culminating point of the road, 6580 ft. above the level of the sea. About $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile beyond it stands the *New Hospice*, founded by Napo-

leon for the reception of travellers, but left unfinished, for want of funds, until 1840. Externally it is a plain, solid edifice, containing several very neat bed-rooms for masters, a drawing-room provided with a piano, a refectory, a chapel, and about 30 beds for travellers of the common sort. N. B. There is neither corn, nor hay, nor stabling for horses. It is much more comfortable than the hospice on the Great St. Bernard, and is even warmed with a heating apparatus. It is occupied by 3 or 4 brothers of the Augustine order, members of the same community as those on the Great St. Bernard. The prior is the amiable father Barras, whose politeness and attention must be remembered by all who have visited the Great St. Bernard within the 25 years during which he has resided there. Several of the celebrated dogs of St. Bernard are kept here, but they are rarely employed in active service. The monks are very happy to show the mansion to travellers, and to lodge and entertain them. Those who can afford it will always leave behind them remuneration at least equivalent to that which is paid at an inn. The establishment is similar to that on the Great St. Bernard, except that it is more limited in extent and funds. (See Rte. 135.)

From the Hospice a high and difficult pass leads to the Saas Thal. (Rte. 122.)

A large open valley of considerable extent, bounded by snow-clad heights, having the appearance of a drained lake, occupies the summit of the Simplon. It is devoid of picturesque interest; all around is barrenness, though rhododendrons and coarse herbage grow. Below the road, on the rt., stands a small Tower, the original Hospice before the new one was built. A gradual but continued descent leads past the Seventh Refuge (ruined), in about 3 miles, to the village of

Simplon (Ital. *Sempione*). Inns: H. Fletschorn, far the best, decent; Poste: Beware of attempts to detain travellers on pretence that horses are want-

ing, and to prevent their resorting to the Fletschorn, which is 100 yds. lower down than the Poste. The traveller should here supply himself with a wooden sabot to save the iron drag of his carriage, during the continual descent of 3 or 4 hours.

By a well-constructed bend, the traveller reaches the *Gallerie d'Alpaby*, the first excavation on the Italian side, about 9 leagues from Brieg and 5 from Domo d'Ossola, on the banks of the torrent Doveria. The road dives into this gallery, and then, by a more gradual slope, enters the *Gorge of Gondo*, one of the grandest and most savage in the Alps, which narrows and deepens at every step, until its precipices in some places actually overhang the road, which is squeezed in between them on one side and the fretting torrent on the other. It is bounded by slate rocks, whose smooth vertical sides deny support to any vegetation; only now and then a tuft of grass lodged in a cleft, or a fringe of fir-trees growing above the gorge, and visible at a great height on the verge of the precipice, contrast agreeably with the unvaried surface of black rock. The base of these cliffs and the bed of the stream are in places heaped up with vast shattered fragments, ruins of the mountains above; while loosened masses still hanging on the slope seem to threaten the passenger below.

The Doveria is now crossed by a wooden bridge called Ponte Alto, an approach to which has been formed by scarping the rock with gunpowder. Some way farther a vast projecting buttress of rock juts out from the mountain on the l., and seems to block up all further passage. It indeed formed a serious impediment to the construction of the road, overcome, however, by the skill of the engineer, who has bored it through, with another of those artificial caverns. This *Gallery of Gondo* is the longest cut through solid rock in the whole line of the Simplon, as it measures 596 feet; it was also the most difficult and costly to make, on account of the extreme hardness

of the rock. The miners were suspended by ropes to the face of the rock until a lodgment was effected, to commence the side openings, which now serve to light the interior. Opposite one of them is seen the inscription "*Ære Italo, 1805. Nap. Imp.*"

Close to the very mouth of this remarkable gallery the roaring waterfall of the Frassinone leaps down from the rocks, close to the road, which is carried over it on a beautiful bridge. Mr. Brockedon, an artist of skill, as well as a traveller of experience, remarks, in his *Excursions among the Alps*, that the scenery of this portion of the Val Doveria, in coming from Switzerland, bursting suddenly upon the traveller as he issues from the gallery, "offers perhaps the finest assemblage of objects to excite an emotion of the sublime, that is to be found in the Alps." The traveller should pause and look back after proceeding about 40 yards. The rocks rise on both sides as straight as walls, attaining the summit of wild sublimity. The little strip of sky above, the torrent roaring in the dark gulf below, the white foam of the waterfall, the graceful arch, and the black mouth of the cavern, form a picture which has been spread over the world by the pencils of all our first landscape-painters. A number of zigzags now conduct to a bridge which was carried away by an avalanche during the dreadful storm which ruined a great part of the Simplon road, on the 24th of August, 1834. The road is still in places very narrow and in bad order.

Gondo (Gunz), the last village in the Valais, consists of a few miserable huts, grouped round a singular, tall building, 7 stories high, erected, like the tower at Simplon, by the old Brieg family Stockalper, in ancient days, for the refuge of travellers.

An hour's walk by the side of the torrent, which falls in a cascade down the rt.-hand wall of the valley, leads to the gold-mine of Zürich-bergen, which, though it barely produces a few particles of the precious

metal, is still worked in the hope of gain. In the winter of 1842-3 the snow was drifted to such a depth in the gorge below Gondo, that the sledges on which carriages were placed passed about 100 ft. above the road. The traveller enters Italy a short while before reaching the Sardinian village of

Isella (Inn good and clean, though small, where the custom-house and passport office are situated.

The tempests of 1834 and 1839 fell with tremendous violence upon this part of the road, which they destroyed for a space of nearly 8 m. Every bridge of stone was swept away; in some instances, even the materials of which the bridge was built disappeared, and the very place where it stood was not to be recognised, and it was many years before the road was repaired. The Gallery of *Isella*, a narrow arch of rock a little below the village, was flooded by the torrent pouring through it, so high were the waters swollen. At the mouth of the *Val Dovedro*, a handsome new bridge, which supplied the place of the one demolished by the torrent over which it passes, was itself carried off, together with a temporary wooden one, in 1850.

Hereabouts a change comes over the valley, from nakedness to the rich green foliage of the chestnut, which shades the road, and to that of the dark fir which clothes the summits of the hitherto bare mountains above. The last gallery is traversed a little before reaching *Crevola*, where the *Doveria* is crossed for the last time by a fine lofty bridge of 2 arches, nearly 90 ft. high, previous to its flowing into the river *Toccia*, or *Tosa*, which here issues out of the *Val Formazza*, and the *Val Vedro* terminates in the *Val d'Ossola*. The mule-path from the *Gries* and *Grimsel*, passing the falls of the *Tosa* (Rte. 62), falls into the *Simplon* route at *Crevola*.

It is now that the traveller really finds himself in a different region and in an altered climate: the softer hues of earth and sky, the balmy air, the trellised vines, the rich juicy stalks of the maize, the almost deafening chirp

of the grasshoppers or tree-crickets, and, at night, the equally loud croakings of the frogs—the white villages, with their tall, square bell-towers, also white, not only scattered thickly along the valley, but perched on every little jutting platform on the hill-sides—all these proclaim the entrance to *Italy*.

Domo d'Ossola (Inns: *H. d'Espagne*, good and clean, fair cuisine; *H. de Ville* or *Ancienne Poste*), a small and unimportant town, with few points of interest, save that it is Italian—in every stone. Houses with colonnades, streets with awnings, shops teeming with sausages, macaroni, and garlic, lazy-looking, loitering *lazzaroni* in red nightcaps, and bare, mahogany-coloured legs, intermixed with mules, burly priests, and females veiled with the mantilla, fill up the picture of an Italian town.

There is a very curious *Calvary* above the town well worth a visit by those who do not intend to see *Varallo*.

The *Hotel Albasini*, highly recommended as a pension or boarding-house, stands outside the town, and is approached by a narrow but practicable carriage-road. It is resorted to on account of the baths in summer.

Omnibus daily to *Pallanza*.

The ascent from this to the *Hospice* of the *Simplon* occupies 7 hrs.

Several very interesting *Excursions* may be made from this:

a. Up the lovely *Val Anzasca* (Rte. 121), by *Pié di Mulera*, to *Vanzone* and *Macugnaga*.

b. To the *Val Vegezzo* (Rte. 112).

c. To the Falls of the *Tosa* (Rte. 62).

d. To *Masera*; the ravines near the village very fine.

e. The Lake *Megorzo* and *Pallanza*.

Domo d'Ossola to *Lago Maggiore* and *Arona* is described in Rte. 111.

ROUTE 60.

TURTMAN TO THE ÄGGISCHHORN,
BY THE LÖTSCHSATTEL.

This pass may well be combined with either of the passes leading from the canton of Berne into the Lötschthal (Rtes. 35, 38), or it may be taken by any lover of high Alpine scenery approaching the Äggischhorn from Sion or Turtman. Nowhere can a long day's journey over snow and ice be accomplished with so little risk or difficulty, and but few passes lead through grander scenery. None of the established precautions for glacier travelling should, however, be omitted. One of the best living mountaineers had a very narrow escape of being lost in a concealed crevasse on the Lötschsattel where the glacier appeared absolutely unbroken. From Kippel to the Äggischhorn is a tolerably hard day's work; but it is said that accommodation can be as well obtained at the curé's of Platten as at the curé's of Kippel. If so, the day's journey across the ice will be notably diminished, for Platten is $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. higher up the valley than Kippel. With the exception of a small part of the Lötschen glacier, the route presents no difficulties. In a very favourable state of the snow the whole distance may be performed in about 10 hrs.; but, if the snow be soft and deep, 2 or 3 hrs. more may be required. As well in order to get over the ascent before the sun has told upon the snow, as to secure daylight in case of bad weather coming on upon the vast snow-fields of the upper Aletsch glacier, it is advisable to start very early from Kippel. About $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. walking by a tolerably good path up the valley leads to the point on the N. side of the Lötsch glacier where it is usual to take to the ice. The lower and

uppermost parts of the Lötschgletscher are free from difficulty, but the middle part is a good deal crevassed. An experienced guide has no difficulty, however, in finding his way, and the summit of the pass or *Lötschsattel* is reached in about 6 hrs. from Kippel.

The scenery here is extremely grand. On the N. side of the Sattel is the range of the Gletscherhorn and Mittaghorn, neighbours of the Jungfrau; to the S. is the still higher group of the Aletschhorn and Schienhorn. An easy descent leads over gently sloping snow-fields to the main stream of the Aletsch glacier. If not pressed for time, the traveller will do well to push on to a point near the centre of the main glacier from whence diverge 4 great and nearly equal glacier highways, each about 2 m. in width, separating the surrounding peaks. S.W. is the glacier which has just been descended; N.W. is the branch from the Mönch Sattel, between the Jungfrau and Mönch; N.E. is the glacier coming down from the Grünhorn-lücke, between the Grünhorn and Wannehorn, over which lies the way to the ascent of the Finsteraarhorn; finally, to the S.E. descends the great ice-stream which carries down the united drainage of the other three. These vast *Allées Blanches* are symmetrically placed so as to form a cross, or, as one traveller has called it, "The Place de la Concorde of Nature." The guides, if they know the glacier well, will not fail to point out a mere speck in the rocks on the l. hand in descending the main glacier, which marks the position of the Faulberg Cave, where adventurous travellers bent on ascending the greater peaks around usually pass the night. On reaching the curious Marjelen See the path on its N. bank is followed, and a slight ascent is required before reaching the Äggischhorn Hotel. (See Rte. 28.)

ROUTE 61.

VIESCH TO CRODO, IN VAL ANTIGORIO, BY THE BINNEN THAL.

There is no frequented pass over the range separating the Valais from Italy, between the Simplon (Rte. 59) and the Gries Pass (Rte. 62), a distance of above 30 m. This portion of the main chain is very little known to strangers, or even to the people of the valleys on either side. It is, however, passable in many directions, though the passes, excepting only the Albrun, are known only to a few herdsmen and chamois-hunters. The short valleys of *Binnen* and *Rappen*, which fall into the upper valley of the Rhone near to *Rekingen* and *Aernen*, are uninhabited, and uninteresting in point of scenery. The only considerable valley on the S.E. side is the *Binnen Thal*, which pours its torrent into the Rhone a little below Laax. About 3 hrs. above the mouth of the valley it divides into 2 branches: the main branch, mounting nearly due E., preserves its name; the southern branch is called the *Heiligenkreutz Thal*, from the hamlet of *Heiligenkreutz*, where there is a chapel resorted to by pilgrims. At the fork of the main valley is placed the village of *Binnen*, where rough quarters for the night may be obtained. Both the branches above mentioned are formed by the union of smaller streams, each of them leading to a pass over the chain. 4 of these passes deserve to be mentioned.

a. The Albrun Pass, the most easterly of the 4, is also the easiest and the most circuitous for travellers

bound for Crodo, though the most direct for those who wish to reach Formazza and the Falls of the Tosa.

By this pass there is a paved track, passable for horses, from Laax to Crodo. The summit is a table-land, wild and dreary in aspect. The track to the Val Devero and Crodo doubles back, and, having been hitherto nearly due E., now turns to the W. of S. From the plateau it is possible to descend by a steep track, passing the lake and valley of Lebendue, to Formazza (Rte. 62).

b. The most direct course from Binnen to the Val Devero is by the *Col della Rossa*. It is said to present no difficulties, and joins the route of the Albrun at the chalets of Ponte, at the head of the Val Devero.

c. A more interesting, but longer and more fatiguing path, is that by the *Krieg Alp*, passing close to a remarkable tower of rock, conspicuous from the *Äggischhorn*, called the *Kriegalpstock*. The valley of Heiligenkreutz forks at the village of the same name; the S. branch, leading to the Krieg Alp Pass, is followed up to the base of the Kriegalpstock. The path is not difficult, but is ill marked, and might easily be missed without a guide. From the summit there is a steep descent, with rocks on either side, until the head of a gully or ravine is reached, *on the rt. side* of which the descent is not difficult. There is no passage to the l.

These 3 routes meet at the chalets of Ponte, from whence there is a paved mule-path down the *Val Devero*, fatiguing enough to the feet. The scenery is very beautiful. About half-way there was a little country Inn, called the *Osteria di Devero*, where a bed could be had; but this had been closed in 1859, and the Editor has not learned whether it has been since re-opened. Before reaching *Croceo*, the first village, a stream is passed on the l., which descends from an upland glen, inhabited by a peculiar German-speaking community. Their village is called *Agaro*, or *Ager*.

Passing through fine woods of chesnut and walnut, the path falls into the road of the Val Antigorio a little above *Craveggia*, where poor quarters and civil treatment are to be found. About 2 m. farther is *Crodo* (see Rte. 62). It is a long day's walk to reach *Crodo* from *Viesch* by any of these passes. By the *Albrun* the distance may be accomplished in 12 hrs.' steady walking; the route by the *Krieg Alp* requires 13 or 14 hrs.; that by the *Col della Rossa* may (it is said) be accomplished in 2 or 3 hrs. less time.

d. To the lovers of high Alpine scenery the most interesting pass out of the *Binnen Thal* is that of the *Ritter* or *Boccareccio Pass*, reached from *Heiligenkreutz* by following the S.W. branch of the valley, called the *Mätti Thal*. A little above the village this again divides into 2 short valleys, or rather ravines, of which the one leading S.W., called the *Giebel Thal*, is followed up a steep but not difficult ascent. When the traveller has reached what he had supposed to be the summit of the pass, at the head of this valley, he finds himself at the lower extremity of an immense amphitheatre or cirque, about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. in diameter, and surrounded by nearly vertical walls of rock, whose strata lie in horizontal lines, like courses of masonry, to a height of 1000 or 1200 ft. This wall is scaled about the centre of the amphitheatre by a stiff scramble, and the true summit of the *Passo del Boccareccio* (about 9500 ft. in height) is finally attained. On advancing a short distance on the S. side, the traveller is astonished to find himself at the summit of another amphitheatre, still more colossal in its proportions. A nearly circular space, about 3 m. in diameter, is surrounded by the highest peaks of this portion of the chain — the *Hillhorn*, *Bortelhorn*, *Furkebaum*; and, chief of them all, the *Monte Leone*. From the gaps between these peaks 5 glaciers descend, and here and there steep slopes of snow rest against the walls of the amphitheatre. It is by one of these snow-slopes that the descent is accom-

plished, for the rocks are too steep to be anywhere practicable. Several groups of *châlets* rest in the comparatively level space at the bottom of the *Cirque*. The chief of these, where there is a small chapel, is called *San Giacomo*; another group, higher up, is called the *Alpe Veglia*. If the traveller has started in the morning from *Viesch* or *Laax*, he will probably find it necessary to sleep at these *châlets*; but, if he has made *Binnen* his starting point, he may push on to better quarters, taking one of the herdsmen as guide, unless he be already well provided. If so disposed, he may return into Switzerland by the glacier which descends into the amphitheatre from the N. side of the *Monte Leone*, over which it is said that the *Simplon* road is reached a short way below the *Hospice*, without encountering any serious difficulty. In the opposite, or due E. direction, there is a passage to the *Val Bondoler*, a wild, uninhabited glen, leading into the *Val Devero*, a few miles above *Croveo*. The easiest course, however, is to descend the valley through which the *Cherasca* torrent rushes down to intersect the road of the *Simplon* near to *Isella*.

The passes above noticed deserve more attention than they have yet received. The *Val Devero* abounds in fine waterfalls and in picturesque points of view. The entire range is extremely interesting to the geologist.

ROUTE 62.

PASS OF THE GRIES:—OBER-GESTELN TO DOMO D'OSSOLA, BY THE VAL FORMAZZA (POMMAT), AND THE FALLS OF THE TOSA.

From Ober-Gesteln it is a walk of 8 hrs. over the Gries to Formazza, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ from thence to Premia. A carriage-road descends the valley from Premia, where a country carriage may be hired, to Domo d'Ossola. A guide is necessary over the Col as far as Frutval, or he may be dismissed safely when you have descended from the Col $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. Thus he may get home the same day, and back-hire be saved.

It is a mule-path, not dangerous, though it crosses a glacier, except in bad weather, when there is much snow on the col, but rather long and fatiguing. The traveller who follows it will be rewarded by scenes of much wildness and grandeur in the Val Antigorio and Formazza. The pass is quite practicable for ladies, who may ride across the glacier, which is unusually free from crevasses.

On the Italian side of the Pass the best halting-place is at the *Inn* at the Falls of the Tosa, or at the German *Inn* (Rössel) at Andermatt. The Baths of Crodo are tolerably good quarters.

In crossing the Nüfenen or Gries from Brieg it is useless to go to Ober-Gesteln. The traveller ascending the

Valais can pass the Rhone by a bridge a little above Münster (*Inn* good), and reach the Eginenthal in an hour. The distance to the pass, however, is more by 3 or 4 m. than from Ober-Gesteln.

Below *Ober-Gesteln* (Rte. 28) a bridge leads across the Rhone, and the path follows the l. bank as far as the village Im Loch, where it turns to the l., and begins to ascend the *Eginenthal*, a barren and uninteresting valley, crossing the stream of the Eginen above a pretty cascade 80 ft. high. A hard climb of about 2 hrs., first through larch-wood, then across a sterile, stony tract, and finally over a little plain of green meadow, dotted with the chalets of Egina, brings the traveller to the foot of the final and most difficult ascent. Near this point a path, striking off on the l., leads over the pass of the Nüfenen (Rte. 63) to Airolo. Here vegetation ceases, snow appears first in patches, and at last the glacier blocks up the termination of the valley, and the path makes a short cut over an elbow of it. It takes about 20 min. to cross. The direction of the path over it is marked by 2 or 3 poles stuck upright in the ice. Along the crest of the mountain runs the frontier line separating Switzerland from Sardinia. The summit of the pass is 8340 ft. above the sea.

In clear weather a magnificent view presents itself from this point of the chain of Bernese Alps. The descent on the Sardinian side of the pass (as usual among the Alps) is steeper than on the N.; it is also more difficult. The upper part of the Piedmontese valley of Formazza, or Frutval, presents four distinct stages or platforms, separated by steep steps, or dips, from each other. The first is called Bettelmatt; the second Morast (morass), on which the miserable group of chalets called Kehrbächi (the highest winter habitations) are situated. The third is Auf der Frutt, with another hamlet of chalets, and a small chapel. Before reaching it, the traveller falls in with the river Toccio, or Tosa, which rises in the upper extremity of the valley, and terminates in the Lago Maggiore.

Beyond the hamlet the path crosses to the l. bank of the stream, and, descending the fourth steep declivity, arrives at the *Falls of the Tosa* (a good *Inn* has been built here), the approach to which has for some time previously been proclaimed by the increasing roar of the water. It is one of the most remarkable cataracts among the Alps, less on account of its form than for its vast volume of water, in which it is surpassed only by that of the Schaffhausen. It does not descend in one leap, but in a succession of steps, forming an uninterrupted mass of white foam for a length of perhaps 1000 ft., while the entire perpendicular descent is not much less than 500. Seen from below, it has a triangular appearance; above, not more than 80 ft. wide, and expanding gradually towards the bottom. It is the only Swiss fall combining great height with a large body of water.

2 m. below the Falls is the village of Frutval, situated on the 4th plateau. 2 m. farther are the villages of Gurf (Grovello) and Zumsteg (Al Ponte). Peter Sillig, of Frutval, is said to be a good guide. The inhabitants of the upper part of the valley, as far as Foppiano, are of German descent, speaking that language, and, according to tradition, descendants of a colony from the Entlebuch. Owing to this intermixture of languages, almost all the villages have a German as well as Italian name.

Formazza (An der Matt), about 28 m. from Domo. **Inn*: Rössli (Cavallo Bianco), clean but rough. Here is the principal church of the valley.

[From the head of the Val Formazza there is a pass, called the Passo di S. Giacomo, by which travellers from Domo d'Ossola or the Simplon to the St. Gothard may reach Airolo, by Hospital all' Acqua in the Val Bedretto. A mule-track, often faintly marked, leaves the Tosa just above the falls, and leads in about 4 hrs. to the poor inn at H. all' Acqua (Rte. 63). When free from clouds the view of the Gothard range from the top

must be fine. Another track, still less frequented, leads from Formazza to Locarno on the Lago Maggiore, by the Val Maggia. It takes 8 hrs. walking by a fatiguing path over the Criner Furca (7837 ft.) to reach Cevio in Val Maggia. 1 hr. farther amidst fine scenery is Bignasco (*Inn*, Post), from whence a country diligence daily starts for Locarno (3½ hrs.).]

The lower part of the vale of the Tosa abounds in exquisite scenery. The Gorge of Foppiano (Germ. Unter-Stalden), 5 m. below Formazza, is particularly grand. Lower down it expands, and displays all the softer beauties of high cultivation, luxuriant vegetation, and thick population.

Below the village called *Premia*, 3½ hrs. from Formazza, where there is a small *Inn* (All' Agnello), a stream descending from the W. joins the Tosa, and the valley changes its name into Val Antigorio.

"The savage grandeur of the Val Formazza, down which the river takes its passage, and the delicious region through which it rolls in the Val Antigorio, cannot be painted in too glowing colours. In these high valleys, fully exposed to the power of the summer sun, there is truly a 'blending of all beauties.' The vine, the fig, and the broad-leaved chestnut, and other proofs of the luxuriance of the soil of Italy, present themselves everywhere to the eye, intermixed with the grey blocks resting on the flanks and at the feet of the high granite ridge, out of whose recesses you have not as yet escaped. Instead of the weather-stained and simple habitation of the hardy Val-laisan, sheltered by the black belt of forest, upon which alone I had glanced yesterday, I now saw, on the southern declivity of the same range, the substantial Italian structure, with its regular outline, and simple yet beautiful proportion, and the villa, the handsome church, or the stone cottage, surrounded by its girdle of vines—the vine not in its stiff and unpicturesque Swiss or Rhenish dress, but the true vine of Italy and of poetry, flinging its pliant and luxu-

riant branches over the rustic veranda, or twining its long garland from tree to tree."—*Latrobe*.

This charming valley is the chosen retreat of numerous retired citizens, such as bankers, jewellers, &c., who have built themselves villas in it. The mica-slate rocks occurring near Premia and San Michele are stuck as full of red garnets as a pudding is with plums. There are several timber-slides for bringing down trees from the high forests. The trees are floated down the Tosa, and thus conveyed to Milan. An excellent carriage-road, finely engineered (viaduct), has been carried up to Premia from Domo d'Ossola, $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. good walking.

[For passes between the Val Antigorio and Viesch in the Valais see Rte. 61.]

At Crodo (Germ. Crot) (*Inn*, Leone d'Oro) is the Italian Custom-house. 2 m. below Crodo, $2\frac{1}{4}$ hrs.' walk below Premia, are the *Baths of Crodo*, a large and well-furnished house, opened 1848: charge en pension 5 frs. a-day, baths extra. The establishment is not very well managed, and passing travellers are charged unreasonably. The waters contain iron. A spring rises in the gardens. Near this are gold-mines. Carriages and horses may be hired here.

Below Crodo the carriage-road crosses the river twice before it reaches San Marco, and then enters the *Simplon road*, at the lofty and beautiful bridge of Crevola, near the Cemetery, at the junction of the Vedro with the Tosa. (Rte. 59.)

3 m. farther on lies *Domo d'Ossola*. (Rte. 59.)

ROUTE 63.

PASS OF THE NUFENEN (NOVENA), FROM OBERGESTELN TO AIROLO.

9 hours = 26 Eng. m. This is neither a difficult nor a very fine pass. The way is tolerably clear, and by travellers accustomed to mountains might in fine weather be found without a guide. It is a horsepath, ascending the vale of Eginen, as in Rte. 62, but, before reaching the Gries Glacier, turns to the l., and crosses the ridge of the

Nufenen, 8022 ft. above the sea-level. Unlike the summit of the Gries, which is covered with a glacier, this pass has grass on its very top, which commands a fine view of the S. side of the Bernese Oberland mountains. The summit is a ridge, requiring 20 min. to cross, the highest part being on the Valaisan side. The path across is marked by poles. There is at times a good deal of snow on the other side. The path descends into the Val Bedretto, in places faintly marked, and scarcely distinguishable from tracks of cattle. On the S. slope of the pass one of the branches of the river Ticino takes its rise. The path descends along its l. bank to the

Hospice all' Acqua, a house of refuge to accommodate travellers, 5000 ft. above the sea, dirty and full of fleas, 3 hrs. walk from Airolo. The Hospitalier is a good guide. A path ascending rapidly through the rough pine forest, crosses the valley from this S. into the Val Formazza to the Falls of the Tosa, $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.' walk (see Rte. 62). The Val Bedretto, from its elevation, has but an inhospitable climate; long winters, and frosts not

uncommonly in the height of summer, morning and evening. It is clothed with forests and pastures, from which its 612 inhabitants derive support in summer; while in winter the males migrate to Italy, to seek employment as servants. It is flanked on either side with glaciers, and is dreadfully exposed to avalanches (§ 17). The masses of fallen snow often remain unmelted on the margin of the Ticino till the end of September. At

Bedretto (small *Inn*), the principal hamlet, the church-tower, which has been once swept away, along with the parsonage, is now protected by an angular buttress, directed toward the side from which the avalanches fall, so as to break and turn them away. The valley leading to Airolo is very pleasing. In the lower part of the valley a scanty crop of rye is grown.

Airolo, in Rte. 34.

Route reversed.—From Airolo the path, which is good and partly paved, descends to the river, crosses it, and ascending to Villa recrosses the river, and chiefly through fields reaches

Bedretto. Here the river is crossed and recrossed to (1 hr. 20 min.) Hospice all' Acqua. Thence to the highest châteaux 1 hr., and to the commencement of the summit 1 hr. 20 min.; 2 hrs. 40 min. to the top of the pass. A descent of 30 min. leads into the Gries path; 3 hrs. Münster (Rte. 28). Total, 8 hrs. 50 min.

ROUTE 65.

ZÜRICH TO RORSCHACH, BY ST. GALL —RAILWAY.

	Eng. m.
Zürich to Winterthur . .	16½
Winterthur to Wyl . .	17½
„ to Flawyl . .	27
„ to St. Gall . .	36
„ to Rorschach . .	45

3 Trains daily in about 4½ hrs. This rly. is continued to Coire (Rte. 66). The possible continuation of this line over the Lukmanier pass seems the most feasible of all projects for crossing the Alps by rly.

Zürich to Winterthur Junct. Stat., in Rte. 9.

The rly. here leaves the Romanshorn line and follows the valley of the Töss as far as Elgg 7 m.; 6 m. farther it crosses the Murg and reaches

Wyl Stat., a small town of 2000 Inhab. with several convents (*Inn*: Schönthal); it then crosses the Thur river on a lattice bridge 448 ft. long, and beyond Flawyl Stat. (*Inn*: Rössli) the valley of the Glatt by a lattice bridge of 3 arches 380 ft. long and 120 ft. high.

Bruggen Stat. 8 m. from St. Gall the valley of the Sitter is crossed by a wrought iron lattice bridge, of clever device, 560 ft. long, in 4 arches or spans. It is raised upon cast-iron piers 200 ft. above the river, resting on stone foundations. These lattice bridges have been extensively used upon Irish rlys.

1. Lower down the stream is the *Krätzeren Brücke*, of 2 fine stone arches, erected 1810.

A long Tunnel is then passed through close to

St. Gall Stat. (St. Gallen). — *Inns* *Hecht (Brochet, Zehnder's), excellent, good cuisine; Lion, very good, and thoroughly comfortable; Rössli (Cheval). A convenient place to make excursions from.

St. Gall, capital of the canton, is situated in an elevated valley on the banks of a small stream called the Steinach, 2081 ft. above the sea. Pop.

15,000 (4900 Roman Catholics). It is one of the principal seats of manufacturing industry in Switzerland. The manufacture of *Swiss muslins* is the most flourishing, but the spinning of cotton is also rapidly increasing. There are extensive bleacheries in the town, and the neighbouring slopes are white with webs. The embroidered curtains and ladies' collars are very pretty and cheap here.

The antique walls, however, which still surround the town, and the ditch, now converted into gardens, tell of a totally different period and state of society, and recall to mind the ancient history of St. Gall. If we may believe the legend, it was in the early part of the 7th century that St. Gallus, an Irish monk, left his convent in the island of Iona, one of the Hebrides, and, after travelling over a large part of Europe converting the heathens, finally settled on the banks of the Steinach, then a wilderness buried in primæval woods, of which bears and wolves seemed the rightful tenants rather than men. He taught the wild people around the arts of agriculture, as well as the doctrines of true religion. The humble cell which the Scotch missionary had founded became the nucleus of civilization: and fifty years after his death, when the fame of his sanctity, and the miracles reported to have been wrought at his tomb, drew thousands of pilgrims to the spot, it was replaced by a more magnificent edifice, founded under the auspices of Pepin l'Héristal. This abbey was one of the oldest ecclesiastical establishments in Germany. It became the asylum of learning during the dark ages, and was the most celebrated school in Europe between the 8th and 10th centuries. Here the works of the authors of Rome and Greece were not only read but copied; and we owe to the labour of these obscure monks many of the most valuable classical authors, which have been preserved to modern times in MSS., treasured up in the Abbey of St. Gall; among them Quintilian, Silius Italicus, Ammian Marcellinus, and part of

Cicero, may be mentioned. About the beginning of the 13th century St. Gall lost its reputation for learning, as its abbots exchanged a love of piety and knowledge for worldly ambition, and the thirst for political influence and territorial rule. The desire of security, in those insecure times, first induced the abbot to surround his convent and the adjoining building with a wall and ditch, with 13 towers at intervals. This took place at the end of the 10th century, and from that time may be dated the foundation of the town. He and his 100 monks of the Benedictine order thought it no disgrace to sally forth, sword in hand and helmet on head, backed by their 200 serfs, in the hour of danger, when the convent was threatened by ungodly laymen. The donations of pious pilgrims from all parts of Europe soon augmented enormously the revenues of the abbots. They became the most considerable territorial sovereigns in N. Switzerland; their influence was increased by their elevation to the rank of princes of the empire; they were engaged in constant wars with their neighbours, and were latterly entangled in perpetual feuds with their subjects at home. These bold burghers, who, in the first instance, owed their existence and prosperity to the convent, became, in the end, restive under its rule. In the beginning of the 15th century the land of Appenzell threw off the yoke of the abbot; at the Reformation St. Gall itself became independent of him; and in 1712 the ecclesiastical prince was obliged to place the convent under the protection of those very citizens whose ancestors had been his serfs.

The French Revolution caused the secularization of the abbey, and the sequestration of its revenues followed in 1805. The last abbot, Pancratius Forster, died in 1829, a pensioner on the bounty of others, in the convent of Muri.

The *Abbey Church*, now cathedral, was completely rebuilt 1766; it possesses, in the *Treasury* or *Sacristy*,

some antique relics—the bell of the original hermitage, ch. plate, &c.

The vast buildings of the deserted *Monastery* date from the 17th and 18th centuries; and the part of it which formed the abbot's *Palace* (*Die Pfalz*) now serves as a R. Cath. Seminary for teachers. The *Convent Library* (*Stifts Bibliothek*) still contains many curiosities, such as numerous Latin classics, MSS. of the 10th and 11th centuries, Greek New Testament of the 10th century, Psalms of the 9th century, various ancient MSS. either from Ireland or transcribed by Irish monks; the Gospels of Sinlaam, bound in ivory tablets; Palimpsests, 4th century; also a MS. of the *Niebelungen Lied*, and many letters relating to the Reformation.

The finest edifices are the *Public Seminary*, on the road to Rorschach, containing the Museum and Town Library, and the *Orphan House*, outside the town, to the N.W.

At the *Casino Club* will be found an excellent *reading-room*.

The *Freudenberg*, the neighbouring mountain on the S.E. of the town, commands from its summit, about 2 m. off, a fine panorama, including the lake of Constance and the mountains of St. Gall and Appenzell, with the Sentis at their head. A carriage-road leads up to the inn on the top.

Excursion.—From St. Gall to Trogen, Gais, Appenzell, Weissbad, and back to St. Gall—a delightful day's drive (Rte. 68).

Rorschach—Inns: Hirsch, good and moderate. Post (Krone). This is the chief station for the lake steamers, Seehof, Gruner Baum, and close to the wharf is the important Terminus of the two rly. lines to Zürich and Coire. Friedrichshafen, the terminus of the rly. from Stuttgart and Ulm, and Lindau, the stat. for Augsburg and Munich, are each of them reached in about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. The steamers also touch at the small town of Bregenz, in the Austrian province of the Vorarlberg, by which is the most direct way to the Tyrol. This little lake-port and town of 2650 Inhab. is the principal corn-market in

Switzerland, held on Thursday. The grain required to supply the greater part of the Alpine districts of N. Switzerland is imported from Suabia, in boats, across the lake, and is deposited temporarily in large warehouses here. Much muslin is made at Rorschach. There are extensive and convenient *Swimming Baths* 5 min. below the town.

The deposits of the Rhine are, it is said, forming themselves into shallows between Rorschach and Lindau, which may soon impede the direct navigation of the lake between these two places. On the slope, a little above the town, is the large dilapidated building, called *Statthaltery*, or *Marienberg*, a palace once of the proud abbots of St. Gall, now a government *School*. Its Gothic cloister, and vaulted refectory with bas-reliefs, deserve notice (date 1513). It commands a fine view from its terrace. Near it, perched on a projecting sandstone rock, is the desolate *Castle of St. Anne*, with its square keep. From the top of the hill, behind Rorschach (1 hour's walk), you may obtain a view over the whole lake, of the influx of the Rhine, and of the town of Bregenz.

Railway to Coire. Rte. 66.

ROUTE 66.

RORSCHACH TO COIRE, BY RAGATZ AND THE BATHS OF PFEFFERS.—RAILWAY.

	Eng. m.
Rorschach.	
Altstetten	16
Sennwald	26
Sewelen	37
Ragatz	48
Coire Terminus	62

62 Eng. m. 3 trains daily, of which the fastest (the evening train from Rorschach) goes in 3 hrs. 20 min. (For information as to steamers see Rtes. 8 and 65.)

After leaving Rorschach the road skirts the foot of low hills clad with vineyards, beneath which the yellow-bellied pumpkins may be seen basking in the sun, but soon quits the margin of the lake to cross the flat delta of the Rhine. The district around the mouth of the river abounds in marsh, and is by no means healthy.

A new channel has been cut for the river into the lake. *Weinburg*, on the height, is the seat of the P. of Hohenzollern Sigmaringen. Fine view from his park.

Rheineck Stat. (Inns: Brochet, Post;—Krone)—a village of 1370 Inhab., on the l. bank of the Rhine, about 4 m. above its embouchure, situated under vine-clad hills. There are several castles on the neighbouring heights.

St. Margarethen Stat., a pretty village completely embowered in a grove of walnut and fruit trees, is situated near the *Austrian ferry, over the Rhine*, which must be crossed in going to Bregenz, or Lindau (see *Handbook for South Germany*); but it is not passable after dark. The railroad turns due S. up the valley of the Rhine, through a highly cultivated country rich in grain, especially maize, and abounding in orchards. The Rhine here is a wide, shallow, muddy, and unsteady stream, constantly changing its channel and overflowing its banks: it is not navigated except by wood-rafts, which float down it.

Altstetten Stat.—(Inns: Post; Rabe)—a town of 7293 Inhab., in a fruitful neighbourhood, and in a lovely spot commanding views of the Alps of Vorarlberg. There is a road from this over the hill of *Stoss* to Appenzell, by Gais, 2 leagues (Rte. 68), and St. Gall, 3 leagues: but a new road has been made, winding round the hill. Those travelling on foot or on horseback should take the old road over the *Stoss*. The view from it over the Alps of the Vorarlberg is celebrated, and the route interesting. Another road, over the *Ruppen*, leads in 3 hrs. to St. Gall, by *Trogen* (Rte. 68). The female inhabitants of the lower Rheinthal are all diligently occupied in tambouring

muslin; much of which goes to England.

Oberied Stat. (*Inn*: H. du Cheval) to Feldkirch in Austria beyond the Rhine is $1\frac{1}{4}$ post.

Sennwald, a village at the foot of the *Kamor* (5730 ft. high, 3 hours' walk, commanding a fine view over the Alps of Appenzell, Vorarlberg, the Grisons): an adjoining peak, a few feet higher, is called the *Hohenkasten*.

Down to the 17th century, the district which we now traverse belonged to the powerful barons of Hohen Sax, many of whose castles, reduced to ruins by the Appenzellers, may still be discerned upon the heights on the W. of the Rhine valley. One of this family, a brave and noble soldier, and a Protestant, escaped with difficulty from the massacre of St. Bartholomew at Paris, and on his return home was murdered by his nephew. After this foul deed, it is the popular belief that the blessing of God was withdrawn from the race: it is certain they never prospered. In 1616 their vast domains were sold to Zürich, and the family became extinct soon after. The body of the murdered man is still preserved in a perfect condition, in a coffin with a glass lid, dried like a mummy, under the church-tower of Sennwald. This circumstance, and the story connected with it, have given to the remains a reputation for sanctity; so that, though a Protestant, the Catholics have stolen some of the limbs as relics, and once actually carried off the body across the Rhine; it was, however, speedily reclaimed.

Buchs Stat. (*Inn*: Sonne). Above it rises

Schloss Werdenberg, seat of a noble family of that name, who played an important part in early Swiss history. It is a conspicuous white building, in good preservation, above the town. A cross road runs hence through the vale of *Toggenburg* to *Wyl* (Rte. 71).

Sevelen (*Inn*: Traube). Rt. on the height the ruined castle *Wartau*; l. beyond the Rhine, lies *Vaduz*, capital

of the principality of Lichtenstein (see Rte. 67); and at the entrance of the Luziensteig pass Schloss Gutburg. In the background rises the grey head of the Falkniss with its chaplet of snow: the whole landscape is splendid and full of variety.

Sargans Junct. Stat. The town of *Sargans* is passed a little on the rt. Here the road and the rly. from Wal-lenstadt and Zürich fall in. (See Rte. 14.)

Ragatz Stat. (Inns: Hof Ragatz, originally the summer residence of the abbots, and now a bathing establishment, and supplied with water from the hot springs of Pfeffers, conveyed hither in wooden pipes, 12,500 feet long; a large house with a fine view; improved and more clean, usually overcrowded. The charges to persons staying in the house to take the baths are very low, but for *passing* travellers the charges are the same as at other inns in Switzerland.—*Hôtel de la Tamina*, tolerable, civil people.—*Krone*. Ragatz is a village of 600 Inhab., situated at the mouth of the gorge (töbel) through which the torrent Tamina issues out to join the Rhine. It thrives from its central position at the junction of the great roads from Zürich, St. Gall, Feldkirch, Coire, and Milan, and from its vicinity to the mineral springs of Pfeffers, which cause it to be much resorted to as a watering-place, especially since the gloomy and uncomfortable old baths have been supplanted by the cheerful new establishment. There is an English chapel here. The philosopher Schelling (died 1854) is buried at Ragatz. His monument was erected by the King of Bavaria.

[No one should omit to visit the OLD BATHS OF PFEFFERS (properly Pfäfers), situated a little way up the vale of the Tamina, one of the most extraordinary spots in Switzerland, accessible by a road cut in the rocks of the gorge. The distance, not being more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ m., is performed in $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour, and it takes only 20 minutes to return in a char. Small carriages wait at the station, and charge $1\frac{1}{2}$ fr. for each person, to or

from the baths. Those who are able should walk; it is not possible to miss the way; you may reach the baths within an hour on foot, and so miss none of the beauties. It is a delightful walk, the scenery very romantic; the torrent forming water-falls at every step, and floating down the logs of wood. Much of the interest and original singularity of the spot, however, is destroyed by the improvement of the access to it.

The Old Baths are situated in two large piles of building connected together by a chapel. They are built on a narrow ledge of rock, a few feet above the roaring Tamina, and so deeply sunken between the rocks that they may be said to be half buried, so that in the height of summer, the sun appears above them only from 10 to 4.

The hot springs of Pfeffers were not known to the Romans. There is a story that they were discovered by a hunter, who, having entered into the abyss of the Tamina, in the pursuit of game, remarked the column of vapour arising from them. For many years nothing was done to facilitate access to them, and patients desirous of profiting by their healing virtues were let down to the source from the cliffs above, by ropes, and, in order to reap as much benefit as possible, were accustomed to pass a week together, both day and night, in them, not only eating and drinking, but sleeping, under hot water, instead of under blankets. The cause of the virtue of the water is not very evident, as a pint contains scarcely 3 grains of saline particles; it has a temperature of about 98° Fahrenheit. The patients are almost exclusively of the lower orders, and if they survive a residence of some weeks in this place they certainly ought to be capable of surviving any illness.

The situation of the old baths is both gloomy and monotonous, hemmed in between dripping walls of rock, and shaded by dank foliage, with only a narrow strip of sky overhead, and with small space or facilities for locomotion and exercise, unless the patient will take the road

to Ragatz or scale the sides of the valley above him. To one fresh arrived from the upper world, its meadows and sunshine, a visit to Pfeffers has all the effect of being at the bottom of a well or a mine, except for a few hours at midday. The atmosphere is kept at one regular temperature of chilliness by the perpetual draught brought down by the torrent; and the solitary and imprisoned ray of sunshine which about noon, and for an hour or two afterwards, finds its way into these recesses, is insufficient to impart permanent warmth or cheerfulness. It is to be presumed that few English travellers would be disposed to make any stay here. A passing visit of a few hours will satisfy the curiosity of most persons. No one, however, should depart without visiting the

Source of the hot spring.

A few yards above the old baths, the sides of the ravine of the Tamina contract in an extraordinary manner, so as to approach within a few feet of each other; a little farther they even close over and cover up the river, which is seen issuing out of a cavernous chasm. The springs are reached through the bath-house, whence a bridge of planks across the Tamina leads to the entrance, which is closed by a door. The bridge is prolonged into the gorge, in the shape of a scaffolding or shelf, suspended by iron stanchions to the rocks, and partly laid in a niche cut out of the side. It has been much improved of late. It is carried all along the chasm as far as the hot spring, and affords the only means of approach to it, as the sides of the rent are vertical, and there is not an inch of room between them and the torrent, for the sole of a foot to rest. Formerly the passage was along two, sometimes one plank, unprotected by railings; at present a platform, 4 feet wide, furnished with a hand-rail, renders the approach to the spring easy for the most timid, and perfectly free from risk. Each person pays 1 fr.

for admittance. A few yards from the entrance, the passage is darkened by the overhanging rock. The sudden chill of an atmosphere never visited by the sun's rays, the rushing and roaring of the torrent, 30 or 40 feet below, the threatening position of the rocks above, have a grand and striking effect; but this has been diminished by modern improvements, which have deprived the visit to the gorge of even the semblance of danger. In parts it is almost dark, where the sides of the ravine overlap one another, and actually meet over-head, so as to form a natural arch. The rocks in many places show evident marks of having been ground away, and scooped out by the rushing river, and by the stones brought down with it. For several hundred yards the river pursues an almost subterranean course, the roof of the chasm being the floor, as it were, of the valley. In some places the roots of the trees are seen dangling through the crevice above your head, and at one particular spot you find yourself under the arch of the natural bridge leading to the staircase mentioned farther on. Had Virgil or Dante been aware of this spot, they would certainly have conducted their heroes through it to the jaws of the infernal regions.

The shelf of planks extends more than $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the baths. At its extremity, at the bottom of a cavern in the rocks, rise the springs, the temperature being about 100° Fahrenheit; the water is received into a reservoir nearly 15 feet deep, from which it is conducted in pipes to the baths. The first baths were miserable hovels, built over the spring, and suspended, like swallows' nests, to the face of the rock: the only entrance to them was by the roof, and the sick were let down into them by ropes and pulleys. Marks of these hovels are still to be seen on the rocks. The springs generally cease to flow in winter, but burst forth again in spring; they are most copious when the snow has fallen in abundance, and continue till autumn, after which their fountains are again sealed. The water has little taste or

smell; it bears some resemblance, in its mineral contents, to that of Ems, and is used both for bathing and drinking.

After emerging from the gorge, at the bath-house, the traveller may ascend the valley above it by a well-marked track; ascending the steep l. bank, and then keeping to the l., and descending a little, he will in about half a mile cross by a natural bridge of rock, beneath which the Tamina, out of sight and hearing from above, forces its way into the gorge of the hot springs. A steep path or staircase (Steige) formed of trunks or roots of trees, on the rt. bank, is then met with, ascending which, you reach an upper stage of the valley, formed of gentle slopes, and covered with verdant pasture on one side, and with thick woods on the other. The two sides are separated by the deep gash and narrow gorge, along the bottom of which the Tamina forces its way. This is, perhaps, the best point for obtaining a general view of the baths and this singular spot in which they are sunken. On looking over the verge of the precipice, you perceive, at the bottom of the ravine, at the depth of 300 feet below, the roofs of the two large buildings, like cotton factories in size and structure. The upper valley, also, with its carpet of bright green, its woods, and the bare limestone cliffs which border it on either hand, and above all, the huge peak of the Falkniss, rising on the opposite side of the Rhine, form a magnificent landscape.

A char-road runs from the top of the Steige along the rt. bank of the Tamina, through a wood and meadows, to

The *Convent of Pfeffers*, a vast edifice, but not otherwise remarkable: it was built 1665, in place of one destroyed by fire. It encloses a church in the centre, like all the convents of the Benedictine order. It is finely placed on an elevated mountain-platform, commanding, on one side, the valley of the Rhine, backed by the majestic Falkniss; on the other, opening out towards the lake of Wallen-

stadt and the peaks of the Sieben Kurfürsten. This Benedictine monastery, founded 713, was suppressed, after an existence of 10 centuries, in 1838, by a decree of the government of the canton of St. Gall, in consequence of the finances of the convent having become involved, and at the request of a majority of the brethren. The Government pensioned the abbot and the monks; agents of the canton took possession of the convent and all that belonged to it, and have converted it into a lunatic asylum.

The convent once possessed a very extensive territory; its abbots were princes; but the French, as usual, appropriated their revenues; and at the termination of the French rule, but a small part of their property was restored to them, including the baths. This is now appropriated to pious works, the education of the people, &c. The revenues of the convent were valued at 216,365 Swiss florins.

Near the convent stands the ruined castle of Wartenstein.

A pretty, but bad, char-road zig-zagging down through woods leads from the convent back to Hof Ragatz.

The pedestrian going to Coire need not return to Ragatz after ascending the Steige, but may pass the convent and proceed to the Untere-Zoll-Brücke; or he may proceed to Reichenau by *Kunkels* (see below, d).

The *Kalanda*, or Galandaberg (the mountain on the rt. bank of the Tamina, above the old baths, which separates the valley from that of the Rhine), is sometimes ascended on account of the view from its top—a 5-hours' climb. Rough accommodation for the night may be obtained at the chalets called *Obern Maiensäss*, about 2 hrs. below the summit. Many other interesting *Excursions* may be conveniently made from Hof Ragatz, but there appear to be no good saddle-horses.

a. To *Luziensteig*, a remarkable fortified pass, beyond the Rhine, 1½ league from Ragatz, between the Fläschberg and the Falkniss. The

ascent of the *Fläschberg* from *Luziensteig* is now made by a carriage-road reaching in succession the various forts, and the view from its top, and down the tremendous precipice which scarps one side of it, is very striking.

b. To the *Prättigau* and *Fideris* (Rte. 98), returning by the *Schallik*.

c. To the top of the *Graue Hörner*, an ascent requiring 5 hrs.—8760 ft.—whence you may see the Lake of *Constance* over the peaks of the *Kurfürsten*.

d. By the *Kunkels* pass to *Reichenau* on the *Splügen*. This pass is not very striking, but is a change from the high road. There is a tolerable char-road to *Vättis*, and in fact a char might be taken to the foot of the col. The char-road goes past the convent, but the pedestrian can go by the old baths, and ascend the *Steige*, the path from which falls into the char-road. The char-road proceeds along the rt. bank of the *Tamina*, past many small slate-works, to the hamlet of *Vadura*. The valley is here tolerably wide and fertile; soon afterwards however it contracts and becomes walled in with tremendous precipices on each side, pines growing on them wherever there is room. In 1 hr. 15 min. from the top of the *Steige* the valley turns to the rt. and opens out, then *Vättis* is reached, a small village at the entrance of the *Kalfeuser Thal*, where bread and wine, and perhaps a bed, might be procured. The path now keeps to the l. over green meadows, the bare precipices of the *Calanda* overhanging on the l. The numerous *châlets* of *Kunkels* are next reached, and then the foot of the col, where the l. path must be taken; and a steep ascent of 20 min. leads to the head of the pass. There is not much view from the col itself. Keeping again l., the path plunges into the ravine of *Foppa*, and by a very steep descent, affording occasionally fine views of the valley of the *Rhine*, *Tamins* is reached and then *Reichenau* (Rte. 87). Time, fair walking—
[Switz.]

Ragatz.	hrs.	min.
<i>Steige</i>	1	0
<i>Vättis</i>	2	0
<i>Kunkels</i>	1	25
<i>Col</i>	0	50
<i>Reichenau</i>	1	20
Total	6½	0

A French detachment crossed this pass in 1799, drove out the Austrians, and plundered *Tamins*.

e. The excursion up the *Kalfeuser Thal* towards the glaciers of the *Sardona* is seldom made, but the scenery is very grand. As far as *Vättis* the path is the same as that over the *Kunkels*. There is a pass, said to be very difficult, over the *Sardona* glacier to *Flims* (Rte. 79).

f. Those who do not intend to cross into Italy may visit the *Via Mala* and return in a long day.

The rly. now crosses the *Rhine* by a covered wooden bridge, and passes out of canton *St. Gall* into the *Grisons*, to

Mayenfeld Stat. (*Inn*: *Alte Post*), a little walled town immediately opposite to *Ragatz*, and about 12 m. from *Coire*, containing an ancient tower said to have been built in the 4th cent. by the Emperor *Constantius*. The valley of the *Rhine* has a grand appearance from this point. The peak of the *Falkniss* is a conspicuous and striking object in the view to the N.E. The *Rhine* alone is unpicturesque, from the width of its bed and the large space of unsightly sand and gravel left bare in summer. Its bed is constantly rising, so as to threaten more fearful inundations; and a plan has been proposed, by *M. la Nicca*, of cutting a new channel for its unruly stream, from this point as far as the Lake of *Constance*. The railroad to *Coire* is carried along the rt. bank of the *Rhine*, crossing the

Landquart (Stat.), an impetuous torrent, descending from the valley of *Prättigau* (Rte. 98), which here enters the *Rhine*. Diligence to *Davos*.

Beyond this, the Convent of *Pfeffers*

is visible from the road; the snowy heights of the *Calanda* rise into sight on the opposite bank of the Rhine; and the ruins of feudal castles, perched upon rocky knolls, overlooking the valley, give a highly picturesque character to the scene. One of the most conspicuous is Haldenstein, nearly opposite Coire. The last station is

Zizers (*Inn*: Krone), near which is Molinära, the fine country-seat of the Bishops of Coire.

From the valleys on each side between the mountains proceed torrents, which have borne down the débris of the mountains, and have thereby formed long hills, reaching to the Rhine. The highest parts of these hills, next the mountains, must be several hundred feet high, whence they gradually slope away. The road regularly ascends the hills, crosses the bed of the torrent at the top, and then descends.

Coire Terminus (Germ. *Chur*; Romansch, *Cuera*).—*Inns*: *H. Lukmanier, near the rly. stat., good and moderate;—Weisses Kreutz (White Cross), and Freyeck, united;—Capricorn, or Steinbock, outside the town, civil people; good. The wine of the Valteline is generally consumed in the Grisons, but *Completer*, which grows on the Rhine, near Malans, is very good, and should by all means be tried here.

Coire, capital of the Grisons, the *Curia Ratorum* of the Romans, is an ancient walled town of 7560 Inhab. (1700 Rom. Catholics), about a mile from the Rhine. Its prosperity arises almost entirely from the high roads upon which it stands, which form the channel of communication from Italy into Switzerland and Western Germany. Coire is the staple place of the goods transported over the two great Alpine carriage-roads of the Splügen and Bernardin. It is the place of meeting of the Council of the Grisons; a member of which claims the title of "Your Wisdom" ("Euer Weisheit").

The town has narrow streets, and stands on uneven ground, at the entrance of the magnificent Glen of the *Schalflk-thal*; some curious domestic

architecture will be found in it. The *Bishop's Palace* and the quarter around it, inhabited by the Roman Catholics, occupy the summit of an eminence and are separated from the rest by walls and battlements, closed by double gates. Here is situated the *Ch. of St. Lucius*, or the *Dom*, a curious example of early pointed Gothic, including fragments of earlier buildings. It is entered from the W. by a round-arched portal supported on monsters. The choir is raised on steps, leaving open to the nave the crypt beneath, which rests on a single pier, whose base is a monster. The statues of the Four Evangelists, Janus-like, in pairs, standing upon lions, are very ancient. There are singular old carvings and paintings, and numerous monuments of the noble Grison families. There is a sacraments-house with metal door, and two other fine shrines, and some candlesticks of metal. In the sacristy are preserved the bones of St. Lucius, a British king, and the founder of St. Peter's Ch., Cornhill, and some specimens of church plate, a bishop's crozier, a monstrance of the 14th centy., shrines, &c.

The *Episcopal Palace* (*Hof*), near the church, is an antique building; the staircase and halls are singularly decorated with stucco work. The bishop's private chapel is in the heart of an old Roman tower called *Marsöt*, attached to the N.E. side of the palace. St. Lucius was put to death in this tower. In another wing is a rude Dance of Death, much mutilated. There is a second Roman tower, *Spinöl*, in an angle of the walls.

Behind the Palace is a kind of ravine, lined with vineyards, across which a path leads to the *Roman Catholic Seminary*, from which is a picturesque view of the town. There is a considerable collection of Romansch literature in the *Library of the Cantonal Schools*.

Besides the roads from Coire to Italy, by the Splügen (Rte. 87) and Bernardin (Rte. 91), several roads lead in different directions through the Grisons.

Diligences every day to Milan, by

the Splügen, in 29 hrs.; to Bellinzona, by the Bernardin, in 17 hrs.; to Samaden (daily) in 12 hrs., and the Engadine, over the Julier Pass. (See Rte. 92.)

The Romansch or Rumonsch Language.

The *Romansch* (properly the *Ræto-Romansch*) language is one of those which, in the course of the middle ages, took their rise from the common or Rustic Latin (*Lingua Romana rustica*), spoken in different parts of the Roman empire in Europe. The Provençal of the S. of France is another, and the Wallachian (*Romouni*) is a third of these tongues still existing. The *Ræto-Romansch* was at one time spoken all through the Roman province of *Rætia*, which included the modern countries of the Grisons, the Tyrol, and the adjacent districts of Switzerland and S. Germany, where many *Romansch* proper names of places still remain, though the inhabitants speak German. Besides a considerable mixture of pure German, the *Ræto-Romansch* contains several hundred words, relating to Alpine life and occupations, derived from the aboriginal Alpine tribes, whom Livy asserts to have been related to the Etruscans.

The population of the Grisons, in 1850, amounted to 88,935, of whom about 50,000 speak *Romansch*, 30,000 German, and 8000 Italian (in the S. districts of Misocco, Bregaglia, and Puschiaivo). As regards grammatical differences, the *Romansch* of the Grisons is divided into three principal dialects, which prevail in—1. The Upper Engadine; 2. Lower Engadine; 3. The Oberland, or country “above and below the forest.”

The literature of the *Ræto-Romansch* language dates back to the latter half of the fifteenth century, beginning with popular songs relating to warlike exploits, succeeded in 1525 by an epic poem by Johannes Travers, a chief actor in the events he describes. The first printed book was the translation of the New Testament into the dialect of the Upper Engadine by

Tachem Bifrun, a lawyer of Samaden. It was published 1560, and had great influence in the extensive spread of the Reformation through the whole *Rætian Valley* of the Inn. It was followed by other translations of the whole Bible, by books of prayer, catechisms, &c., throughout the *Romansch Grisons*; and the example set by the Protestants was quickly followed by the Roman Catholics.

Most of the inhabitants of the Grisons are bilinguals, who, if they speak *Romansch*, speak Italian or German likewise. The laws are written and the edicts of Government are published in *Romansch*, and there are two *Romansch* newspapers—‘*Amity del Pievel*’ (the Friend of the People), ultramontane, published at Coire in the dialect of the Oberland, and the liberal ‘*Gazetta d’Inngiadina*,’ in that of the Lower Engadine.

The traveller in the Grisons may be reminded that, the *Romansch* names of places, of two syllables, generally have the accent on the last syllable, as *Ardéz*, *Cernéz*, *Lavín*, *Mascín*, *Ragátz*, *Sargáns*, and that the *Romansch* names of many places differ materially from the German: *e.g.*, *Disentis*, *Rom.* *Muster*; *Brigels*, *Rom.* *Breil*; *Waltersburg*, *Rom.* *Uors*; *Ems*, *Rom.* *Dommat*.

History and Government of the Graubunden or Grisons.—It must not be supposed that the conspiracy on the Grütli, in 1307, and the exploits of Tell, gave freedom to the whole country now called Switzerland, or even influenced more than a very small part of it—the Forest cantons—except in as far as such a spirit-stirring example is capable of influencing the minds of a neighbouring people. For more than a century after the first Swiss union, that part of the country of *Rhætia* now called Grisons groaned under the tyranny of almost numberless petty lords, who, though they possessed but a few acres of land, or even no more than the number of square feet on which their castle stood, yet assumed the rights of independent sovereignty, waging perpetual petty war with their neighbours—oppressing their own subjects, and pillaging

all travellers — the ancient form of levying duties and customs. The best notion of the state of society which existed during this period of the *Faustrecht* (club law), may be formed from the quantity of feudal ruins which stud not only the main valleys of the Rhine, but even the lateral valleys and gorges of the Rhaetian Alps. At last a day of retribution came. The peasants rose in revolt and threw off the yoke of the nobles—with less violence than might be expected, chiefly because the great ecclesiastical potentates, the Bishop of Coire, the Abbots of St. Gall and Disentis, and some of the more influential barons, sided with the peasants, directing, instead of opposing, the popular feeling.

The result of this was the Grison Confederacy (1471), quite distinct from the Swiss Confederacy, composed of *Three Leagues* (Bünden)—the Upper, or Grey League (Ober, or Graue Bund), 1424 (named from the simple grey home-spun coats of those by whom it was formed); the League of God's House (Ca Dè in Romansch, in Germ. Gotteshaus Bund), so called from the church of Coire, the head and capital of this league, 1396; and the League of the Ten Jurisdictions (Zehn-Gerichte), of which Mayenfeld is chief town (1428).

The government produced by this revolution presented a remarkable example of the sovereignty of the people and of universal suffrage. Not only every valley, but in some cases every parish, or even hamlet, in a valley, became an independent commonwealth, with a government of its own, with peculiar local administrative rights and privileges. Sometimes one of these free states, sometimes several together, formed a commune or *schnitze*, literally slice (*gemeinde* or *gericht*); each commune had its own general assembly, in which every citizen of the age of 18, sometimes younger, had a vote, and by which the magistrates and authorities, down to the parson and schoolmaster, were elected. With such a complication of machinery, it is difficult to understand how any government could have been carried

on; and we accordingly find the history of the Grisons little better than a long series of bickerings, feuds, revolts, conspiracies, massacres, intrigues, and peculations. The wisest decisions of the diet of the canton were annulled or frustrated by the votes of the general assemblies, accordingly as the interest or caprice of the most influential popular leader might sway these meetings at the moment. Two great families, those of Planta and De Salis, in the end, long monopolised the chief influence, as well as the patronage and offices of the federal government. Such was the *practical* result of this democracy of the purest form *in theory*.

Towards the end of the 15th centy. the Grisons concluded a permanent alliance with the Swiss, and in 1525 conquered Chiavenna and the Valtelline, the inhabitants of which they treated in the most oppressive and tyrannical manner until they were separated in 1798. In 1814 the Grisons became a Swiss canton.

A new local and administrative organization of the canton of the Grisons was introduced in June, 1851. According to this, the old historic names and divisions are abolished, and the canton is portioned out into 14 districts, 39 circles, and 205 communes or parishes.

ROUTE 67.

BREGENZ TO COIRE, BY VADUZ.

The direct route from the Tyrol to eastern Switzerland is by the high-road of the Vorarlberg, which quits the valley of the Inn at Landeck, and enters the valley of the Rhine at Feldkirch. Diligences from Landeck to Bregenz daily, in about 18 hrs. Pedestrians may reach Bregenz from

the Tyrol, or the Bavarian Alps, through the beautiful valley of the Bregenzer Ach, a mountain torrent which, after a course of about 35 m., falls into the Lake of Constance a little S.W. of Bregenz. The quickest way from Bregenz to Coire is to take the steamer to Rorschach, and the rly. thence to Coire (see Rte. 66). Those who wish to see the country may prefer to take the carriage-road along the rt. bank of the Rhine.

Bregenz. *Inns:* Oesterreichischer Hof; Post, or Goldener Adler; Schwarzer Adler; Krone. (See *HANDBOOK FOR SOUTHERN GERMANY.*) From 40 to 50 fr. is asked for a carriage to Ragatz, or to Mayenfeld, where the rly. to Coire crosses to the rt. bank of the Rhine. Diligence daily from Bregenz to Feldkirch. It is a drive of 7 leagues = 21 m. to *Feldkirch* (*Inns:* Post; Engel Gabriel), the frontier town of Austria, finely situated at the opening of the valley of the Ill, through which lies the high-road to the Tyrol. Travellers from Innsbruck or Botzen, bound for Coire, should take their places only to Feldkirch. About 1 m. out of the town the road quits the Austrian territory to enter the principality of Lichtenstein, one of the smallest sovereign States in Europe, measuring about 12 m. in length by 3 or 4 in breadth. The Prince has very large possessions in Austria, and usually holds a high position at the Court of Vienna, not caring to exercise in person his rights of miniature royalty. He is, however, a member of the Germanic Confederation, and contributes 55 men to the Federal army! The high-road traverses *Vaduz*, the capital of this minute State, and about 5 m. farther *Balzers* (*Inn:* Post), formerly a post-station, at the foot of the heights, which are crowned by the fortress of *Luziensteig*, contested between the Swiss and Austrians in the 15th centy. and Thirty Years War (1621-24), and in the war of the French Revolution (1799-1800). It was rebuilt 1830. Near Balzers is a ferry across the Rhine by which Ragatz is reached sooner than by Mayenfeld. $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. far-

ther, and about 18 m. from Feldkirch, is Mayenfeld Stat. Thence to Coire by rly. (Rte. 66).

ROUTE 68.

RORSCHACH, OR ST. GALL, TO GATS AND APPENZELL; WITH EXCURSIONS TO THE WEISSBAD, THE WILDKIRCHLEIN, AND THE HOCH SENTIS.

The *canton Appenzell* lies somewhat out of the beat of travellers, completely surrounded (enclavé) by the territory of canton St. Gall, and shut in, at its S. extremity, by the Alps; on which side no great high roads pass through it. Appenzell itself lies in a cul-de-sac of the mountains, except for such as will traverse difficult paths over the high Alps and glaciers. On this account, it is but little visited by English travellers. It originally belonged to the league of Imperial Towns under a bailli, but in 1513 it joined the Swiss cantons as the 13th and last canton of Switzerland before 1798. The canton is divided into 2 parts or districts, called *Rhoden*, quite independent of each other, but enjoying only one vote at the diet. Outer Rhoden is a very thickly peopled district, having 8781 Inhab. to the Germ. sq. mile, who are Protestants. These are almost exclusively engaged in manufactures, chiefly of cotton, muslin, tambouring, &c. Inner Rhoden, on the contrary, is a land of herdsmen, and is Roman Catholic; its high and bleak mountains produce nothing but rich pasturage and sweet grass, upon which vast herds of cattle are fed. The government, in both states, is a pure democracy: the General Assembly,

or Landsgemeinde, is composed of every male born in the canton. In travelling through this somewhat primitive district, two unusual objects may attract the traveller's attention,—the pillory, by the road-side, furnished with a collar (carcan), a hole for the neck, a padlock, and a chain; and the bone-house, or *ossuaire*, in the churchyards, destined to receive the skulls and bones, which, after lying a certain number of years below ground, are dug up to make room for others; and, having been ticketed and labelled with the names of their owner, are laid out for show on shelves in the bone-house.

There is an appearance of prosperity, of cleanliness and neatness in Ausser Rhoden, which is very pleasing. The green hill-sides to their very top are studded with cheerful looking houses, the dwellings of the peasants. The villages of Trogen, Teuffen, and Speicher are highly interesting, for, though the houses are of wood, they are tastily and comfortably built, and most of them with a well-tended garden before them. In fact many persons of ample fortune reside in these little towns, much of the Swiss muslin being made or embroidered here for St. Gall houses. Every cottage is filled with females assiduously busied in embroidery. But a remarkable change greets the traveller, on entering Roman Catholic Inner Rhoden, from Protestant Outer Rhoden. He exchanges cleanliness and industry for filth and beggary. What may be the cause of this is not a subject suitable for discussion here. The Appenzellers are passionately fond of gymnastic exercises; and a part of every holiday is devoted to wrestling and boxing matches. Hurling the stone is another frequent exercise. A mass of rock, varying in weight from half to a whole cwt., is poised on the shoulder, and then cast forward a distance of several feet. In 1805 a man of Urnäsch hurled a stone, weighing 184 lbs., 10 ft. The Appenzellers are also capital shots: rifle-matches are held in summer on almost every Sunday, and the crack-

ing reports resound on all sides. The laws of the canton (especially of Outer Rhoden) restrict dancing to 3 or 4 days of the year; but, as the people are much addicted to this amusement, the law is frequently infringed, and the peasants will often cross the frontier of the canton in order to enjoy unmolested their favourite amusement. Being less overrun by strangers than other parts of Switzerland, the prices at inns, charges for guides, horses, &c., are lower than elsewhere.

Although the mountains of the canton Appenzell are not of the first order of magnitude, there are few districts in the Alps which will better reward the lover of nature who may be tempted to spend some days or weeks in exploring its recesses. For pedestrians arriving by the Lake of Constance, it offers the most direct and agreeable route for commencing a walking tour in the Alps. It is easily accessible by good carriage-roads from the E. and W.; and, though little frequented by English tourists, it is annually visited by large numbers of German and Swiss visitors, who chiefly come for the sake of the *cure de petit lait*, or *molken cur*, which is supposed to be very beneficial to health. This "cure" consists in a course of drinking goats'-whey, here called *schotten*, which is brought in large quantities every morning, still warm, to the establishments frequented by the seekers for health. There can be little doubt that benefit is often derived, but it may be allowable to believe that the pure mountain air, healthful exercise, and regular life, have as large a share in the effect as the goats'-whey. The principal establishments of this kind are at Gais, Weissbad, Heiden, Gonten, and Urnäsch.

From the village of Rorschach there is a carriage-road for about 5 m., chiefly uphill (omnibus takes nearly 2 hrs.), to

Wienachter Eck. Here flags are quarried out of the regularly stratified sandstone, and sent away into

Germany and Holland. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to *Grub Katholisch*, and then *Grub Reformirt*. From hence it is an hour's walk to Heiden, but pedestrians may go direct to Trogen, passing over the summit of the *Kaien*, a hill 3668 ft. in height, commanding a fine view. Turning to the rt., or somewhat W. of S., below ch. of the *Reformirt Grub*, the summit is reached in 1 hr.; descent to Trogen $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr., or less.

Heiden. (*Inns*: Freyhof, good, rooms 7 fr. to 12 fr. a-week for persons making a stay; Lion (Löwe), clean and cheap; Krone; Linde.) In addition to the whey-cure there are mineral waters here, and it is much frequented during the summer. This pretty village, rebuilt since 1838, when it was burnt to the ground, lies in the midst of pleasing pastoral scenery, and many agreeable excursions may be made.

a. About 4 m. S. of Heiden from the little ch. of St. Anthony (*St. Antoni Capelle*), a beautiful view is gained, looking over the valley of the Rhine, and part of the Lake of Constance, and at the opposite ranges of the Vorarlberg and Lichtenstein mountains.

b. The top of the *Kaien*, above mentioned, is reached from Heiden in $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr. It is about 5 m. by a good road from Heiden to

Trogen (*Inn*: Schäfle), the seat of the government of Appenzell (Ausser-Rhoden). From hence to Gais there is a carriage-road by Bühler, making a considerable circuit; for pedestrians the more agreeable route is over the hill of the *Gäbris* (2 hrs. to Gais). Finger-posts are very numerous on the hills in this district, so that a pedestrian need rarely be at fault. The top of the *Gäbris* is much overgrown by forest; so that, although somewhat higher than the *Kaien*, and nearer to the high range of the *Sentis*, the view is less attractive, and few travellers will think it worth while to turn out of the direct path, which lies over the shoulder of the hill, to

Gais—Inns: Ochs, largest; Lamm, clean and cheap; Krone. The bread is very good here. This little village of neat timber cottages, mostly converted into lodging-houses by the peasants their owners, irregularly scattered over lawn-like meadows, is situated in an open country, with nothing but green pastures around, at an elevation of 3000 ft. above the sea-level. Yet the reputation of its pure and bracing air, and of its cure of goats' whey, annually attract hither many hundred invalids from all parts of continental Europe; and during the season, in July and August, the principal inns are generally full.

The peasants' houses are particularly clean, trimly painted outside, as though they had just issued from a bandbox. The native songs of the cow-herds and dairy-maids of Appenzell are highly melodious.

Gais lies in view of the *Sentis* and its chain; a noble object; and at the S. side of the *Gäbris*, which may be reached with little trouble in 1 hr. on horseback. Guide 2 fr.

Gais is the most central place in Appenzell, several roads meeting there:—

1. From St. Gall by Trogen (see above).

2. Another, more frequented, leaves the canton of St. Gall, and enters that of Appenzell (Ausser-Rhoden) a little before reaching, by an excellent but hilly road,

Teuffen—(*Inns*: Hecht, good; Linden; Bär). The inhabitants of this flourishing village of neat cottages are chiefly engaged in the manufacture and embroidery of muslin. Grubenmann, the carpenter, who built the celebrated bridge of one arch at Schaffhausen, was born here, and built the ch.

3. From Herisau (Rte. 69) a carriage-road, about 15 m., by Gonten and Urnäsch, where there are establishments for the whey-cure.

4. From Altstetten (Rte. 66). The new road avoids the higher part of the hill: on the old road, 2 m. to the E. of Gais, is the *Chapel of Stoss*, erected on the summit of the

steep pass leading down to the Rhine Thal, to commemorate the almost incredible victory gained by 400 men of Appenzell over 3000 Austrians in 1405. The Archduke of Austria and the Abbot of St. Gall had hoped to take the Swiss by surprise with this preponderating force. But a handful of the mountaineers, under the conduct of Count Rudolph of Werdenberg, assembled in haste, gave them battle, and defeated the invaders, with a loss of 900 men, losing only 20 of their own party. The blood of the slain is said to have discoloured the mountain-torrent which flowed past the battle-field as far as its influx into the Rhine. The view from the Stoss over the valley of the Rhine, 2000 ft. below, and of the snowy mountains of Tyrol and Vorarlberg beyond, is of the highest beauty. A very steep descent leads from the Stoss to Altstetten rly. stat. (Rte. 66).

It is a distance of $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. (there is a footpath shorter) from Gais to

Appenzell—Inns: Schwartzter Adler, clean and very cheap; Hecht, good. Though the chief place of the district of Inner Rhoden, this is but a large village of 1400 Inhab., consisting of old houses, with two convents, and a modern church attached to a Gothic choir, painted with representations of banners and flags taken by the Appenzellers in the 15th cent., and contains nothing remarkable in it. It derives its name from the country-seat of the Abbot of St. Gall (Abten-zelle, Abbatis Cella), having been anciently built here, when the country around was savage.

The *Landesgemeinde*, or Assembly of the canton, meets on a square, near a lime-tree, every year. In the Record Office, *Archiv*, are preserved a number of banners, conquered by the Appenzellers of old, and the only surviving trophies of their valour. Here are the flags of Constance, Winterthur, Feldkirch; the Tyrolese banner and free ensign, inscribed "Hundert Tausend Teufel," conquered at Landek 1407; the Genoese banner of St.

George, and two captured from the Venetians, 1516, in the battle of Agnadell.

About $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Appenzell is *Weissbad*, a homely boarding-house and bathing establishment, fairly well kept and beautifully situated in a retired spot, at the foot of the Sentis, surrounded by grounds, from which walks lead up the mountains. The house is capable of accommodating 120 visitors, but the visitors and accommodation are inferior to those at Gais.

In addition to the cure of goats' whey, there are mineral springs at Weissbad, and the bath-houses contain 80 baths.

Excursions.—*a*. To the *Alpensee*, 1 hour's walk: very pretty scene, suited for ladies.

Three small torrents, the Bären (or Sentis)-bach E., the Schwändebach S., and the Weissbach W., issuing out of 3 Alpine valleys deeply furrowed in the sides of the Sentis, in whose glaciers they take their rise, unite at Weissbad, and form the river Sitter.

b. About 5 m. up the middle valley, $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour's walk, is the singular hermitage and chapel of the *Wildkirchlein*. It is reached by crossing the Alpine pasture of the Bodmenalp, which, in spite of its elevation, is in summer a perfect garden, unfolding a treasure to the botanist, and affording the sweetest herbage to the cows.

In a recess scooped out of the face of a precipice, 170 ft. above these pastures, a little chapel has been perched. It was built 1648 by a pious inhabitant of Appenzell, and dedicated to St. Michael, and on that saint's day mass is celebrated here annually. A bearded Franciscan used to occupy the hermitage adjoining, and conduct strangers through the long caverns hung with stalactites, which perforate the mountain behind his dwelling. Now the innkeeper is the guide.

A door at the extremity of this rocky vault gives sudden access to

another fine pasturage, the Ebenalp, 5090 ft. above the sea-level, whose summit, where there is an *Inn*, is 20 min. walk from Wildkirchlein, commanding a far more extensive and a different view, extending over the lake of Constance and the Suabian hills. There is a clean little *Inn* close to the rocks of the Wildkirchlein.

c. The *Sentis*, the highest mountain in Appenzell, 8280 ft. above the sea-level, may be ascended from Weissbad in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours. The view from the top is much extolled, and a panorama of it has been engraved. Various paths lead up to it; the best and easiest, which is also perfectly safe in the company of a guide, leads by way of the Meglisalp—*Inn*—(3 stunden); Wagenlücke (2 stunden); to the summit (1 stund).

d. From Weissbad to the *Hohenkasten*, which is the highest point of the *Kamor* range, is a walk of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours. From the top (a small *Inn*) is a fine view over the Rhine valley, part of the Lake of Constance, the Alps of Vorarlberg. There is a path from Weissbad by Brüllisau, and thence by the *Kamor* or by the *Hohenkasten*, to Sennewald in the *Rheinthal*, in 5 hours.

Even without ascending to the summit of the *Kamor*, the traveller crossing the ridge has a delightful prospect over the *Sentis* and canton Appenzell on one side, and over the lake of Constance, Tyrol, and the Rhine, on the other. A 3rd path leads over to Sax in the *Rheinthal* from the lower end of the *Fakler See* at the head of the *Säntisthal*. None of these paths are easy to find without a guide.

A steep and rather difficult path, commanding some fine views, leads S. over the ridge of the *Sentis* by the *Krayalp* from Weissbad to Wildhaus, the birthplace of Zwingli, in Toggenburg (Rte. 71), in 7 hrs.; whence in another day Wesen, or Wallenstadt, may be reached. The paths are difficult to find without a guide.

ROUTE 69.

ST. GALL TO UZNACH, BY HEINRICHSBAD AND HERISAU.

$3\frac{3}{8}$ posts = 30 Eng. m.

St. Gall.	Posts.	Eng. m.
Herisau	$\frac{1}{2}$	= $5\frac{1}{2}$
Wattwyl	$1\frac{3}{4}$	= $15\frac{1}{2}$
Uznach	1	= 9

Diligences twice daily in 6 hrs. to Uznach. From thence rly. to Zurich or Coire.

This is a very agreeable drive through a well-planted hilly country, presenting here and there distant views of the higher Alps.

About 2 m. from St. Gall, a little beyond the village of Bruggen, the road crosses the gorge of the Sitter by the magnificent *Krätzeren Brücke*, a bridge 590 ft. long, and 85 ft. above the stream, built 1810. A little after we enter canton Appenzell.

[About a mile to the N.E. of Herisau is the watering-place called *Heinrichsbad*. The *Badhaus* is, after Schintznach, one of the most elegant establishments of the sort in Switzerland, surrounded by agreeable pleasure-grounds, the creation of one Heinrich Steiger, a rich manufacturer. Two springs rising out of gravel, and variously impregnated with iron, carbonic acid, &c., are used for drinking, and to supply the baths. Goats' whey and asses' milk are also furnished to those invalids for whom they are prescribed. Accommodation

in a cowhouse is provided for invalids suffering from diseases of the chest. The neighbourhood is exceedingly picturesque.]

Herisau—*Inns*: Löwe (Lion), the best; Hecht (Brochet)—an industrious village of Ausser-Rhoden, contains 9600 Inhab., stands 2334 ft. above the sea, and is advantageously situated at the junction of two streams, the Glatt and Brühlbach, which turns the wheels of its numerous manufactories. It is a very singular place from its extraordinary irregularity of construction. There are beautiful walks on the surrounding heights, two of them are topped by ruinous castles, the Rosenberg and Rosenburg, which, according to the story, were once connected together by a leathern bridge. The lower part of the *Church Tower*, in which the Archives are deposited, is the oldest building in the canton, dating probably from the 7th century.

The articles chiefly manufactured here are muslins, cottons, and silk, the last a recent introduction: 10,200 persons are employed in Ausser-Rhoden in weaving muslins, and a very large number in embroidering them.

The *Hundswyler Tobel*, a very singular gorge or chasm, deep and wild, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Herisau, deserves to be visited.

There is a direct road from Herisau to Appenzell (Rte. 68), by Waldstadt ($1\frac{3}{4}$ hours); Urnäsch ($1\frac{1}{4}$), and Gonten (1): in all 5 stunden = 15 m. *Schönengrund*.

Through an undulating country, we reach the frontier of Appenzell, and re-enter that of its grasping neighbour, St. Gall, before arriving at

Peterzell: 3 m. beyond the ruined Castle of Neu-Toggenburg lies

Lichtensteig, (*Inn*: Krone,) a town of 744 Inhab. on the rt. bank of the Thur, the ancient county of Toggenburg. A picturesque and handsome old Place, composed of lofty buildings with porticoes, forms the principal street.

The valley of the Thur is studded

with factories and with the country seats of their proprietors.

Wattwyl (*Inns*: Lion d'Or; Rössli), a pretty manufacturing village, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. farther, stand the convent of Santa Maria and the Castle of Iberg.

The road soon after surmounts the steep ascent of the ridge of Himmelwald. From its top a beautiful prospect expands to view; in front the lake of Zürich, with the castle, town, and bridge of Rapperschwyl, in full relief on its margin; behind it the pine-clad and snow-topped Alps of Schwytz and Glarus; on the E. the remarkable peaks of the Sieben Kühfirsten, and behind the fertile vale of Toggenburg (Rte. 71). The road divides on the opposite side of the hill.

Uznach Stat. (Rte. 13).

ROUTE 71.

WYL TO COIRE. THE TOGGENBURG.

$7\frac{7}{8}$ posts = $70\frac{1}{4}$ Eng. m.

	Posts.	Eng. m.
Wyl.		
Wattwyl	$1\frac{1}{8}$	= 12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nesslau	1	= 9
Wildhaus	$1\frac{1}{4}$	= 10
Haag	$\frac{7}{8}$	= $7\frac{1}{4}$
Coire	$3\frac{1}{4}$	= 31 $\frac{1}{4}$

Diligence daily in about $7\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from Wattwyl to the Haag Stat. on the rly. from Rorschach to Coire (Rte. 66). *Post road*.

Wyl on the railway from Winterthur to St. Gall (Rte. 65). (*Inn*: Schonthal, or Post.)

The road, after leaving Wyl, continues on the l. bank of the Thur, to Dietfurth, where it crosses the river to

Lichtensteig and *Wattwyl* (Rte. 69). From *Wattwyl* the *Speer* may be ascended in about 4 hrs. (Rte. 13).

Ebnat (Inn: Pfau).—*Toggenburg*, as the long and fertile valley of the *Thur* is called, extends for nearly 40 m., from *Wyl* up to the source of that river, and a splendid specimen of a Swiss valley it is, embracing within its range almost all the various features of Alpine scenery, save that there is scarcely a tract of level alluvial bottom to be found in its whole extent; its sides being everywhere steep or undulating. It is bounded by high mountains; on the N. by the *Sentis*, and on the S. by the peaks of the *Kurfürsten*. It was anciently governed by counts of its own. When their line became extinct, 1436, the district was claimed by canton *Zürich*, and a memorable war on the subject ensued, in which the Swiss cantons for the first time fought with one another. It finally, in 1469, fell to the abbot of *St. Gall*, whose successors had continual disputes with the inhabitants, especially after the Reformation. In 1712 the abbots, after much fighting, were expelled, but restored in 1718. Since 1803, the *Toggenburg* has formed part of canton *St. Gall*. It is thickly peopled; its inhabitants, an industrious race; are chiefly occupied with the manufacture of muslin and cotton.

Nesslau.—Inn: *Krone*.

Alt St. Johann (Inn: *Rossl*).—The river *Thur* rises at *Unter-Wasser*, at the foot of the *Alte Mann*.

Upon the high ground dividing the valley of the *Thur* from that of the *Rhine*, stands the remote village

Wildhaus — (Inn: *Sonne*, *Hirsch*), 3450 ft. above the level of the sea, and at the S. base of the *Sentis*, between it and the 7 *Kurfürsten*. It is remarkable only as the birthplace of the Swiss reformer, *Ulrich Zwingli*. The house in which he first saw the light (Jan. 1, 1484) still exists in the hamlet of *Lisighaus*. It is an humble cottage of wood; its walls formed of the stems of trees, its roof weighed down by stones to protect it from the wind. It has resisted the inroads of time for more than 350 years; and the beams

and trunks which compose it are black with age. *Zwingli's* family were peasants; he quitted home when 10 years old, to go to school at *Bâle*.

[There is a steep pass over the *Kray Alp* from *Wildhaus* to *Appenzell*.]

The road descends by numerous zigzags into the valley of the *Rhine* near *Gams*, and soon after reaches

Haag Stat.

Thence by *Werdenberg Stat.* on the rly. to

Coire (Rte. 66).

ROUTE 72.

WESEN OR RICHTERSCHWYL TO SCHWYTZ — EINSIEDELN — MORGARTEN.

	Miles.
Wesen to Lachen . . .	15
Lachen to Schindelegi . . .	8
Richterschwyl to Schindelegi	3
Schindelegi to Rothenthurm .	7
Rothenthurm to Schwytz .	8

Total, *Wesen* to *Schwytz*, 38 m.; *Richterschwyl* to *Schwytz*, 18 m.

Diligence from *Richterschwyl* to *Schwytz*, and to *Einsiedeln*, and from *Wesen* to *Lachen*.

The road from *Wesen* after crossing the *Linth* keeps by the side of the hills to *Lachen* (Inn: *Bär*), a village of 1200 Inhab., on the margin of the lake of *Zürich*. It thence passes through *Pfäffikon* near the long bridge of *Rapperschyl*, and soon afterwards begins to ascend the steep slope of the *Etzel* or *Teusisberg*, and crosses the *Sihl* at *Schindelegi*, ascending again. Many delightful views are obtained in ascending, over the lake of *Zürich*, and the summit commands a good view of the *Mythen* (*Mitres*), *Rigi*, and other mountains in that direction. The holy hermit *Meinrad*, the founder of *Einsiedeln*, originally fixed himself on the top of

the Etzel, but the concourse of people attracted to the spot by his reputation for holiness drove him in search of solitude deep into the wilderness. A little *chapel* stands on the spot supposed to have been occupied by his cell. Near it is an inn. From this chapel the first view of Einsiedeln is obtained; the descent thither occupies $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour.

[The road from Richterschwyl immediately begins to ascend and joins the other at Schindelegi.]

A mile and a half from Schindelegi is

Biberbrücke (Inn). Here the road to Einsiedeln turns off to the l. Passengers by the diligences on the main road, have a scramble for seats with those that arrive from Einsiedeln.

[The road is studded at intervals with chapels called *stations*, each containing a representation of some event in the Passion of our Lord, at which the pilgrims may stop and tell their beads.

EINSIEDELN (French, Notre Dame des Erémites; Lat., Monasterium Eremitarum). *Inns*: Pfau (Paon); clean and good; the charges are raised during the pilgrimage. There are in all 55 inns and 20 alehouses here, mostly designed for the reception of poor pilgrims, and distinguished by a singular variety of signs.

The Abbey of Einsiedeln, which forms the nucleus of a village of a few hundred inhabitants, rises high on a naked undulating plain 3000 ft. above the sea, producing little but pasture. It is partly sheltered by a range of wooded hills on the S.E.

The *Monastery* itself, an extensive building in the modern Italian style, is imposing, less from its architecture than its size and its situation in so remote and naked a solitude. The existing edifice dates from the 18th century (1719), and is the 6th or 7th raised on this spot since the first foundation of the abbey, the others having been destroyed by fire. It occupies a stately site upon the hill side, separated from the humbler buildings of the village by a wide square.

The origin of the abbey is thus ac-

counted for in the histories published under the authority of the monks:—In the days of Charlemagne a holy anchorite named Meinrad, of the noble house of Hohenzollern, repaired to this remote wilderness (then called the Finsterwald) to end his days in solitude and prayer, devoting himself to tend a little black image of the Virgin which had been given to him by St. Hildegarde, abbess of Zürich. This holy man was murdered by two robbers in 861; but their foul deed, which they had hoped would escape detection on a spot so remote from the haunts of men, was brought to light by two pet ravens reared by Meinrad, which pursued the murderers with croaking cries, and flapping wings, over hill and dale, as far as Zürich, where their guilt was detected, and they suffered for it on the place now occupied by the Raven inn. The reputation of sanctity, however, surrounding the spot where the saint had lived, increased so much after his death, that his cell was rebuilt, and a church founded by a community of Benedictine hermits (Einsiedlern). The first abbot was Eberard, and it is affirmed by the monkish legend, and perpetuated in the bull of Pope Pius VIII., that when the Bishop of Constance was about to consecrate the church on the 14th of September, 948, he was aroused at midnight by the sounds of angelic minstrelsy, and was informed next day, by a voice from heaven, that there was no need for him to proceed with the sacred rite, as the church had been already consecrated by the powers of heaven, and by the presence of the Saviour! The Pope pronounced this a true miracle, and, in consideration of it, granted plenary indulgence to all pilgrims who should repair to the shrine of Our Lady of the Hermits, in the words inscribed upon the church, "*Hic est plena remissio peccatorum à culpâ et à pœnâ.*" The consequence of this has been that during 9 centuries there has been an almost uninterrupted influx of pilgrims from the surrounding countries to this shrine, and of wealth to the monastery. In

process of time these pious benefactions increased its revenues and domains to an enormous extent; it ranked second to St. Gall alone of all the monasteries in Switzerland. Its abbot became a prince of the holy Roman empire, with a seat in the diet. He had his hereditary officers, his chamberlain, marshal, and cup-bearer; and these posts were filled by personages of noble or princely rank. He also enjoyed the right of criminal jurisdiction and the power of life and death in several parishes and circles. Down to the 16th century the abbots themselves were of noble families.

The French revolutionary invaders of 1798 stripped Einsiedeln of its resources and treasures, and carried off the figure of the Virgin to Paris; but the monks, on abandoning the convent, transported with them into Tyrol a duplicate figure, which they assert to be the authentic original. Notwithstanding these untoward circumstances, the abbey remains at the present day the richest in Switzerland, and the Black Virgin, whether an original or a copy, has lost none of her reputation. The average annual number of pilgrims who receive the sacrament in the church is 150,000. In the course of the year 1700 there were 202,000; in 1861 about the same number; in 1834, 36,000 pilgrims repaired to the shrine within a fortnight. The great feast-day is Sept. 14. Every parish of canton Schwytz, and most of the other Rom. Cath. cantons, send an annual deputation hither, headed by the landamman and the authorities. The Roman Catholics of Switzerland, indeed, for the most part, make 2 or 3 journeys hither in the course of their lives. Many of the pilgrims are deputies paid by others, wealthier sinners, to do penance for their principals, who remain at home, and a pilgrimage thus performed by proxy is considered equally efficacious with one made in person.

In 1835 the convent contained 77 monks of the Benedictine order, including lay-brothers, novices, &c.

In the square in front of the convent stands a fountain with 14 jets of

water, from all of which the pilgrims drink, as it is traditionally reported that our Saviour drank from one, but from which of them is not known. In the centre of the pile of conventual buildings stands, as is usual in Benedictine monasteries, the *Church*, which has been compared with that of St. John Lateran at Rome. The interior is somewhat gaudily ornamented with inferior paintings, marble and gilding. A few feet from the entrance stands the *Shrine* or *Chapel of the Virgin*, of black marble, with a grating in front, through which, by the glare of an ever-burning lamp, the spectator perceives the palladium of the temple, a little black figure of the Virgin and Child, attired in gold brocade, glittering with jewels, and bearing crowns of gold on their heads. The space in front of the shrine is rarely free of worshippers, and commonly hundreds, nay, at times, thousands of devotees may be seen prostrate before it. The walls of this part of the church are covered with votive tablets, rude paintings in oil, on which no kind of accident or misfortune is omitted, though they are chiefly devoted to representations of escapes from fire and water, all effected by the supposed miraculous interference of the image. Its influence, however, is not limited to incidents of private life, many of the great events of history, such as the victory of the Roman Catholic cantons at Kappel, are classed among the triumphant interpositions of our Lady of the Hermits. 250 new votive tablets were hung up in 1835, older ones being removed to make way for them.

In the *Chapel of the Magdalene*, a church of itself in size, on the l. of the choir, are 28 confessionals, over each of which is written the language in which confessions will be received in it, either German, Italian, French, or Romansch.

The *Treasury*, once so rich in church plate, was plundered by the French in 1798, and one splendid monstrance alone remains, but it is not readily shown. The monastery includes, besides the lodgings for the Abbot and the brethren, a handsome refectory,

a kitchen, an hospital, a *library* containing 26,000 vols., a museum containing some fossils and minerals, a free school and boarding-school, the pupils of which are taught by the monks, and a large cellar running under the greater part of the edifice. During meals, passages of some approved author, such as Lingard's History of England, Cobbett's History of the Reformation, &c., are read aloud to the assembled brotherhood, and even at times portions of newspapers.

Zwingli, the reformer, was curate of Einsiedeln from 1516 to 1519. Theophrastus Paracelsus von Hohenheim was born here, or in the neighbourhood, in 1498.

There is a rough foot path under the Mythenberg (Mitres hill), called the *Hacken*, by Alpthal, from Einsiedeln to Schwytz, shorter than the carriage-road. It takes $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. to walk: no guide is needed. Near the top is an inn, from which the peak, called *Hochstüchli* (4470 ft.), is $\frac{1}{4}$ hr's. walk.

The carriage-road to Schwytz makes, at first, a considerable *détour*: the footpath is shorter, crossing the *Katzenstrick*, a large tract of upland meadow or common, direct to *Altmatt*.]

Rothenthurm (*Inn* dirty and extortionate; it is better to stop at *Lachen*), a village of nearly 800 Inhab., is the place of meeting of the general assembly of the canton Schwytz, convened here every two years, in the open air, on the first fine Sunday in May. The *Landamman* is president, and every citizen above the age of 18 has a vote. These meetings afford no favourable specimen of the working of universal suffrage, as they frequently terminate in rioting and violence. For example, in May, 1838, 9000 voters collected here; the show of hands was declared to be in favour of the government; but the Liberal party being dissatisfied with the result, a battle ensued, in which the hustings were broken and many persons much injured. The democrats, enraged at their defeat, published a manifesto,

calling on the "Liberals to meet in their districts, and expel the rich from their assemblies as their ancestors expelled Gessler, since the government of the rich has become a government of murderers."

Rothenthurm receives its name from a Red Tower still standing and forming part of the defences of a long wall or rampart (*letze*), erected by the Schwytzers along their W. frontier, to ward off the inroads of their lordly and lawless neighbours. It extended hence as far as Arth.

About 2 m. W. of Rothenthurm, on the confines of the canton of Zug, easily reached by a road turning to the rt. between Rothenthurm and *Ecce Homo*, leading to the little chapel of St. James, on the borders of the lake of Egeri (Rte. 15), is MORGARTEN, memorable in Swiss annals as the scene of their first struggle for independence; as the spot where the chivalry of Austria were worsted, and their leader, Duke Leopold, compelled to fly with disgrace, on the 15th of November, 1315, 8 years after the expulsion of the Austrian bailiffs. Fired with the hope of revenge and with feelings of hereditary hatred, the duke led on his mail-clad cavalry along the narrow strand between the lake and the hills. Just where the ascent into the upland country of Schwytz commences, running up a narrow defile, the Austrians were met by the confederates, a mere handful of men in comparison with their host, but of hardy frame and resolute spirit, posted on the ridge of the *Sattel*, near *Haselmatt*. The first bold charge of the Swiss, rushing on with swords and clubs, was aided by a discharge of rocks from the heights above, which quickly threw into confusion the ranks of heavy-armed knights. They attempted to fall back, but their evolutions were prevented by the infantry pressing on in their rear. Without room to manœuvre, or even to turn (for the naturally confined margin of the lake was at that time diminished by an unusual increase of its waters), the proud knights were totally at the mercy of their light-armed foes. Many, in order

to escape the sword, perished by plunging into the lake; the rush of the cavalry overwhelmed the infantry behind, and in a short time the whole army was thrown into panic and disorder. The Austrians lost the flower of their nobility, and Leopold with difficulty escaped. This astounding victory, the Marathon of Swiss history, was gained in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr., over a force of 20,000 well-armed men, by 1300 mountaineers, who now for the first time met an army in the field.

The appropriate memorial of their success erected by the Swiss was, according to custom, a *Chapel*, dedicated to St. James; and service is performed in it annually, on the anniversary of the fight.

The little village of *Biberegg*, on the opposite (E.) side of Rothenthurm, was the cradle of the family of Reding, one of the oldest and noblest in the canton, and whose name appears oftener with credit than any other. There is scarcely a battle in which they are not mentioned, and they have 45 times filled the office of landamman, the highest in the state. In 1798 Aloys Reding, a hero worthy of such an ancestry, led on the brave inhabitants of these mountains to oppose, in defence of their liberties and constitution, a far outnumbering force of French under General Schauenberg. The Swiss met the invaders in the valley of Rothenthurm, and drove them back as far as the lake of Egeri and the field of their ancient victory of Morgarten. This proved but a temporary gleam of success. Their victory had cost them so large a number of men, that they were unable to renew the contest; and an overwhelming force of French marching into the canton rendered all further resistance hopeless.

A long descent, commanding a fine view of Schwytz, of the singular and picturesque Mythen (Mitre) mountains behind it, and of the lake of Lowertz, with part of the fall of the Rossberg (Rte. 17), leads through Sattel, past the chapel of Ecce Homo, to *Steinen*, a small village, having two *Inns* (Rössli, Krone), memorable as the

birthplace of Werner Stauffacher, one of the three conspirators of the Grütli, nearly 4 hours' drive from Einsiedeln. A small *chapel*, adorned with rude frescoes of scenes from his life, and the battle of Morgarten, is dedicated to his memory. It was built in 1400. The *Bonehouse* is as old as 1111.

Schwytz. (Rte. 17.)

[Travellers bound from Einsiedeln to the Rigi or Lucerne need not enter Schwytz. Soon after leaving Steinen, a path branching off to the rt. leads, in about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour, to Goldau (Rte. 17).]

ROUTE 73.

SCHWYTZ TO GLARUS, BY MUOTTA, THE PRAGEL PASS, AND THE KLÖNTHAL.

	Stunden.	Eng. m.
Schwytz.		
Muotta Thal	3	= 9
Summit of the Pragel	$3\frac{1}{2}$	= $10\frac{1}{2}$
Richisau	$1\frac{1}{2}$	= $4\frac{1}{2}$
Vorauen	1	= 3
Glärus	3	= 9
	12	36

These are the distances as reckoned in the country, and a horse will require at least 12 hrs., but a good walker will accomplish the distance in $10\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. There being a rough char-road from Schwytz to Muotta, and a good road from Vorauen to Glarus, those who can walk 6 leagues have no need of horses, and will be better off without them. The regular charge for a horse from Schwytz to Glarus is 25 fr. (including return fare), but advantage is taken of travellers arriving at Brunnen or Schwytz to demand a higher rate. A guide to

Glarus 5 fr., and 5 fr. return fare. A pedestrian can, for 2 fr., hire a boy at Muotta to show the way as far as Richisau, beyond which no guide is needed. There is a footpath rather shorter than the char-road from Schwytz, by which Muotta may be reached in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. The road crosses the plain to Ibach, a village of scattered houses at the mouth of the Muotta Thal, which here assumes the character of a contracted gorge; higher up it opens out, and exhibits considerable capabilities for cultivation. The road ascends the l. bank of the stream, traversing Ober Schönenbach, down to which point the Russians, under Suwarrow, drove the French commanded by Massena, Mortier, and Soult, in his desperate attempt to force his way through them to join the Russian army at Zürich, in 1799. The stone bridge (long since swept away by the torrent and replaced by a covered wooden bridge at a higher elevation) near this, which carried the road over to the rt. bank, was taken and retaken many times; the mingled blood of the two nations crimsoned the stream which swept down their floating bodies.

Beyond *Ried* there is another bridge, near which is a pretty waterfall, and a third brings the traveller to

Muotta Thal, or *Mütten* (a neat and cheap little Inn, Zum Hirsch—between the church and the bridge), the principal village of the valley, on the rt. bank of the stream. The parish contains 1480 Inhab. In the neighbourhood is the *Nunnery of St. Joseph*, a very ancient and primitive convent, founded 1280. The sisters are poor, and their mode of living homely; they make their own clothes and their own hay; the superior is called Frau Mutter. They receive visits from strangers without the intervention of a grating, and will even give a lodging to a respectable traveller. Whoever avails himself of this must remember that the convent is too poor to afford gratuitous hospitality. They speak no French.

From Muotta a path leads by the Kinzig Culm to Altorf. It was by this path that Suwarrow brought his

troops. Another pass leads by the Bisi Thal to Stachelberg (Rte. 75).

On the night of Sept. 27th and 28th, 1799, the inhabitants of the remote and peaceful valley of Muotta were surprised by the arrival of an army of an unknown nation and tongue, whose very name many of them had never heard, which came pouring down upon their cottages and green fields from the heights of the Kinzig Culm, by paths and precipices usually resorted to only by a solitary shepherd. These were the 24,000 Russians under Suwarrow, whose march out of Italy is recounted in Rtes. 34, 75, and 80. Here the general first heard the news of the defeat of Korsakow and the main Russian army at Zürich. He at first gave no credence to the report, and would have hung the peasant who communicated it as a spy and traitor, but for the intercession of the lady mother of St. Joseph's nunnery. He was now beset on all sides; part of Lecourbe's division followed his rear, Molitor occupied the summit of the Muotta Thal, and Mortier and Massena blocked up its mouth. The bold attempt to cut his way out, through the forces of the latter general, was defeated, as already mentioned, chiefly by the unexpected arrival of a fresh reinforcement under Lecourbe in person, though with vast loss to the French. The veteran conqueror was compelled, for the first time in his career, to order a retreat, and to adopt the only alternative of crossing the Prigel into Glarus. The detachments of Molitor's advanced guard were quickly driven in before him, and the greater portion made prisoners. Suwarrow's rear-guard, however, encumbered with sick and wounded, was greatly harassed by Massena; but the republicans were again repulsed with loss, and driven back nearly to Schwytz. Suwarrow expected to be able to reach Zürich from Glarus, there to join and rally the broken forces of Korsakow; but Molitor, in person, warned of his approach, took possession of the position of Näfels, blocking up the outlet

of the Linth Thal, as Massena had intercepted his passage down the Muotta Thal, and the Russian once more found his plans foiled and baffled. Fearing to be hemmed in on all sides by the French, he gave his troops a few days of rest at Glarus, rendered absolutely indispensable by the fatigues they had undergone, after which he once more took to the mountains, ascending the Sernft Thal (Rte. 80) and crossing the Panixer Pass to the Grisons.

A little beyond the nunnery, at the end of the village, the view into the Bisithal is very beautiful.

The Prigel pass is exceedingly steep and stony on the Muotta side, and sometimes marshy, and is scarcely fit for horses, which moreover are not easily to be found at Muotta. There are no difficulties on the Glarus side. There is no need for a guide in clear weather, as the pass is much used by the natives.

From the inn at Muotta the path continues for about 25 min. among the fields and houses, then crosses the stream which descends from Prigel, and immediately ascends rapidly its l. bank, very rocky and rugged for the first 2 hrs., after which and at the top there are large marshy or boggy patches with planks and stones laid across them. There is nothing striking in the scenery on this side.

The col (5200 ft.) is called Prigel, and is flat; there is a chalet where bread, wine, &c., can be procured, but it is abandoned in the first week of Sept., and snow is said to melt late and fall soon on the pass.

The first part of the descent is gentle, but in about 20 min. the Klönthal opens, and the valley is partly blocked up by a huge barrier, which appears to be an ancient moraine; the path makes a détour to the left to avoid this obstacle, and then descends more rapidly through pines to *Richisau*, where there is a clean rustic *Inn*, kept by civil people.

The Klönthal, into which the traveller now descends, is exceedingly beautiful. On the rt. hand it is walled

in by the *Glärnisch* rising in an abrupt and sheer precipice, terminated by a sharp edge of ice, and on the l. by the Wiggis, scarcely less abrupt. It is a charming walk of less than an hour down hill, chiefly over green pastures and meadows, to

Vorauen, where there is a very good country *Inn*, kept by F. Weber, an attentive landlord. A country cart with seats can generally be obtained here; but it is a better plan to make this the sleeping-place, and proceed next morning to Glarus. The landlord has a boat upon the lake, by means of which the walk may be shortened 2 m., and the scenery seen to perfection. Deep in the recesses of this charming valley lies the *Klönsee*, a lake about 2 m. long, embedded deeply at the foot of the Glärnisch, whose vast grey precipices descend at this point almost perpendicularly into the water. It is surrounded by meadows of the most verdant green, covered until the end of autumn with flowers. The precipitous tracks along the side of the valley, along which some adventurous French pushed forward in pursuit of the Russians, are pointed out. Ebel calls the Klönthal "une des vallées les plus gracieuses qu'il y ait dans les Alpes." Two Swiss have inscribed on a rock at the foot of the Glärnisch, by the side of a waterfall, an epitaph in memory of Solomon Gessner, the pastoral poet, author of the 'Death of Abel,' who used to repair hither from Zürich, and spend the summer in a chalet.

The Vorauen appears to be a favourite excursion from Glarus, and is a good starting point for the ascent of Glärnisch; and there is an excellent char-road from it. The char-road follows the l. bank of the lake for about 3 m., and then begins to descend into the valley of Glarus. Keeping to the rt. where two roads meet, the manufacturing village of *Riedern* is reached, from which the road, or a footpath on the rt. over the hill, leads to

Glarus (Rte. 74).

ROUTE 74.

WESEN TO GLARUS AND THE BATHS OF
STACHELBERG.

Railway from Wesen to Glarus; trains 5 times a-day, in 30 m.

The canton of Glarus, or Glaris, consists of one great Alpine valley, and of several secondary or tributary valleys, branching off from it, and penetrating deep into the high Alps. There is but one carriage-road into it, which terminates, after a distance of $6\frac{1}{2}$ leagues = $19\frac{1}{2}$ Eng. m., at the baths of Stachelberg; and for carriages there is no egress save the portal which has admitted the traveller. It is a truly Alpine district, abounding in very wild scenery.

The railroad from Wesen crosses the Linth canal (Rte. 13), and enters the jaws of the valley of Glarus, flanked by precipices almost perpendicular, and backed by the vast mass and snowy head of the Glärnisch Mountain.

[The road from Rapperschwyl to Glarus passes through Lachen on the S. side of the Lake of Zürich, and along the l. bank of the Linth canal to Nieder-Urnen, where that from Wesen joins it.]

Näfels Stat.—(Inns: Hirsch; — Schwerdt)—in the gorge of the valley, a village of 1800 Inhab., and the chief place in the Roman Catholic division of the canton, is a Swiss battle-field of some celebrity. 11 simple stones, inscribed 1388, set up on the meadow of Reuti, hard by, mark the spot where, in that year, 1300 men of Glarus met a force of 6000 Austrians, who, having taken Wesen by treachery, had burst into the canton, ravaging and plundering the country as they advanced. When tidings of this reached the ears of Matthias am Buhl, the lands-captain, he hastily collected a handful of shepherds, and not only checked the career of the foragers, in spite of the disproportion

tion of numbers, but after 11 distinct charges, aided by volleys of stones and rocks discharged from precipices above, which threw the Austrian cavalry into confusion, finally repulsed the invaders, with a loss of 2500 of their number left dead on the field.

The anniversary of the fight of Näfels is still celebrated through the canton by an annual festival. An engagement took place at Näfels, in 1799, between the Austrians and French.

From *Mollis*, the village opposite Näfels, the river Linth is conducted into the lake of Wallenstadt by the artificial canal constructed by Escher (see Rte. 13). In the churchyard of Mollis the heroes of Näfels are buried.

The valley of the Linth is subject to much danger and injury from its sudden rises, and the swelling of its tributary torrents. The broad fringe of unsightly sand and gravel visible on both sides of the Linth, the common drain of the district, will show what mischief that river occasions after storms of rain, and during the melting of the snows. The whole of the lower part of the valley is at times converted into a lake; and the little patches of ground, which have cost the peasant much hard labour and care to cultivate, are at once overwhelmed and ruined. The limestone mountains of this district abound in caverns, which serve as reservoirs for the melting glaciers. In the spring and early summer, the rocks appear to stream from every pore, while every gorge and hollow sends forth a raging torrent.

Glarus was formerly subject to the Abbey of Säkingen, to which rights Austria succeeded. Glarus joined the Swiss cantons in 1352, and after the battle of Näfels gained partially its independence; and towards the end of the 14th centy. the canton purchased the extinction of feudal rights, and finally made peace with Austria. The Reformation divided the canton and occasioned severe struggles and fighting. In 1798 the canton lost several dependencies. It contains 30,000 Inhab. 26,000 Prot., 4000 Roman Catholics, all speaking German.

Glarus (Glaris, Fr.)—(*Inns*: Glärner Hof; new, clean, but rather dear and noisy;—Railway Restaurant). This little town, the capital of the canton, is chiefly remarkable for its secluded situation at the base of the Glärnisch and Schilt, encompassed and shut in by the Alps, whose bare and bleak precipices and tops contrast remarkably with the milder verdure about their base. The inhabitants, 4826 in number, are distinguished by their industry and enterprise, which has converted Glarus into a place of manufactures, especially of cotton, printing of muslins, &c.

They possess a *Club* (Casino), a modern house of fine masonry, and a *Free School* for 700 children, erected by private subscriptions, and reflecting much credit on the public spirit of the citizens. The Gothic church is open to Protestant and Romanist alike. Zwingli was the pastor here, 1506 to 1546. The Linth is crossed by two bridges.

The *Burghugel*, an eminence surmounted by a chapel, commands the best view of the town, the green meadows around, and the arid limestone mountains Glärnisch (7175 ft.), Wiggis (7030 ft.), Hansstock, and Karpfstock.

In 1861 a disastrous conflagration all but utterly destroyed this hitherto prosperous seat of industry. At times a tremendous wind called the *Föhn* sweeps down the valley of Glarus with the concentrated force of a furnace-blast. It is so much dreaded, that local laws have existed for generations, by which, on its setting in, every fire in the town, including those used for purposes of industry, must be extinguished. The very day before the fire occurred, the propriety of repealing these laws had been considered by the assembled inhabitants of the canton, and by an almost unanimous resolution it was resolved to maintain them. It was during a visitation of this dreaded wind that a stray spark was carried from one house to another, and a fire kindled, which was not extinguished till more than two-thirds of the town were laid

in ashes. All the principal buildings were burned to the ground, and 3000 of the population left houseless.

The name *Glarus* is a corruption of *Hilarius*, a saint to whom a shrine was built among these mountains at a very early period.

The *green cheese* called *Schabzieger* is peculiar to the canton Glarus. It owes its singular appearance, rank smell, and flavour, to an herb (*Melilotus cærulea*, blue melilot: Germ. Honigklee), which is partly cultivated for this purpose in gardens within the canton, and partly imported from others. To fit it for use, it is dried, ground to powder, and, in that state, mixed with the curds, in the proportion of 3 lbs. of the herb to 100 lbs. of curds. The cheese is said to be made of cows' milk, like any common cheese, and not of goats'. The curds are brought down from the high pastures into the valley in sacks, and, after having a due proportion of herb incorporated with them, are ground in a mill resembling that used for making cider. After being thoroughly kneaded by this process for an hour or two it is fit for pressing. The cheese is ripe for use after a twelvemonth's keeping. A large quantity of it is exported to America; and the manufacture of it is considered a lucrative trade. The natives attribute its peculiar character to some virtue in the pastures on which the cows are fed.

It is a pleasant $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. drive or walk from Glarus to *Obstalden* or Narexen, where is a fine view over the whole lake of Wallenstadt and part of that of Zürich. A broad road leads thither from Mollis. N.B. The charge for horses, guides, and porters in the valley of Glarus is very high, and the beasts are very bad.

Many mountain paths ramify in various directions from Glarus.

a. The Prægel pass (Rte. 73) by the Klönthal into the canton Schwytz through a beautiful pastoral valley: the finest part of it is not more than 8 m. from Glarus, and may be reached in a char.

b. Two mountain-paths lead to the Lake of Wallenstadt; one, by the

Kerenzenberg over the W. shoulder of the *Mürtschenstock* (Rte. 13); the other, to *Murg*, passing under the E. side of the summit. The ascent of the *Mürtschenstock* may be easily combined with either of these excursions. A guide should be taken.

c. Two passes lead through the *Sernft Thal* to the valley of the *Vorder Rhein*:—

(1) The *Segnes Pass* (Rte. 79).

(2) The *Panicer Pass* (Rte. 80).

d. Three passes lead into the *Canton St. Gall*, which, like the last, are reached through the *Sernft Thal*:—

(1) The *Flumser Pass*, diverging from the village of *Matt*, to the *Flums* stat. on the rly. between *Wallenstadt* and *Sargans* (Rte. 14).

(2) The *Rieten Pass*, from *Matt* to *Sargans*, said to be easy.

(3) The *Ramin Pass*, from *Elm* to *Sargans*, more difficult than the last, about 10 hrs. walk.

The baths of *Pfeffers* may be reached by either of the last-mentioned passes, by crossing the ridge between *Weisstannen*, and the *Kalfeuser Thal*. The main object, however, with most travellers who visit *Glarus* is to reach *Lint-thal* and *Stachelberg*, up the valley of the *Linth*, where first the *Glärnisch*, and, higher up, the *Dödi*, with its snowy satellites, are objects of extreme grandeur and beauty.

Stachelberg has of late years risen into notice as one of the best headquarters for the lovers of grand Alpine scenery. Numerous excursions of more or less difficulty may be made, and passes, hitherto rarely frequented by travellers, lead in various directions. The principal of these are described in Rtes. 75, 76, 77, 78, and 79.

The people of the *canton Glarus* have exhibited the national propensity to prey upon strangers as strongly, but with less intelligence, than elsewhere in *Switzerland*. A few years ago prices were much lower than in the *canton Berne*; but since tourists have become more numerous, exorbitant demands are often made for guides, horses, &c. Up to a recent date, the peasant proprietors at the

head of the valley had resisted the continuation of the char-road, or even the making of bridges over the torrents, because they find it a good speculation to employ their children to lay planks over the streams, a service which the wayfarer can scarcely refuse to reward.

It is about 13 m. by a good road from *Glarus*, through many villages, and by numerous cotton factories and charming scenery, to

Lint-thal (*Inns*: *Zum Bären*, cheap and fair; *Löwe*). Pedestrians may prefer this to the hotel at *Stachelberg*, which is dearer and a little more distant from the *Pantenbrücke*, and the head of the valley. The *Diligence* crosses the river below *Lint-thal*, and will leave or call for strangers proceeding to the large *Hotel* and *Baths* of *Stachelberg*, a tolerably well-managed house, but often overcrowded, built on an eminence on the W. side of the *Linth*, surrounded by torrents, rocks, and glaciers. It has greatly risen in repute as a watering-place, and on account of the exquisite beauty of its situation, and the virtues of its concentrated alkaline sulphureous spring, which distils, drop by drop, from a fissure in the *Braunberg*, is much resorted to. The period of the "cure" is fixed at between 20 and 24 days. The hotel is surrounded by walks and pleasure-grounds. It is resorted to by a mob of holiday-makers on Sundays, when the house is very noisy. The valley of the *Linth* abounds in fine waterfalls. Less than a mile from the *Baths* are the *Falls* of the *Fätschbach*. About 1 hr. above *Lint-thal* is the much finer fall of the *Schreyenbach*, of the *Staubbach* kind, which when seen from below appears to issue from the sky. At the bottom it spreads over 30 yards of rock, coming down in a shower of water-rockets. It is well worth while to turn aside from the regular path to the *Pantenbrücke*, in order to approach the fall on the opposite side of the river.

A little further on is a new and clean little *Inn* (*H. du Tödi*), opened 1863.

The most interesting excursion from *Stachelberg* is that to the head of the

valley, where the Linth escapes from the glaciers that lie around the peaks of the *Tödi*, *Biferten Stock*, *Scheerhorn*, &c. Above the baths the vale of the Linth becomes grander and more savage; at length the bed of the river contracts into a chasm, in the depths of which it worms its way, while a narrow and steep path alone leads along the edge of the precipice. 5 miles up ($1\frac{3}{4}$ hours' walk), at a spot where the gorge is deepest, was a singularly bold bridge of a single arch of stone, 20 ft. span, and 140 ft. above the torrent, and 400 years old. This was the *Pantenbrücke*, which was swept away by an avalanche, 1852, and has been since rebuilt. The gorge above the bridge becomes even more romantic and wild; it is surpassed by few in the Alps.

About $\frac{1}{4}$ hr. above the bridge a tributary torrent joins the Linth on the E. side, which seems to cut its own channel, but a few yards in width and many hundreds of feet deep, into the mass of the *Selbsanft* mountain, which rises grandly in tier over tier of precipices to a height of about 10,000 ft. Beyond this the path crosses to the W. side of the stream, and the gorge opens out a little. After crossing some slopes of disintegrated slate at the base of the *Gemsstock*, another bridge carried the path back to the E. bank, and a little farther the châteaux of the *Lower Sand Alp* are reached— $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. from the *Pantenbrücke*—where milk and butter may be obtained. From this point, about 4000 ft. above the sea, the views, though confined by the rocks which rise steeply around, are extremely striking. Nearly due S. is the magnificent, but rarely visited, *Biferten glacier*, enclosed by the precipices of the *Biferten Stock* and *Platva* on the E., and the *Tödi* on the W. It sends down its torrent, the *Bifertenbach*, to join the main stream, here called the *Sandbach*, a little below the higher châteaux. The *Sandbach* is seen to flow from an upper plateau W. of the *Lower Sand Alp*, and descends the precipitous rocks on that side of the valley in a magnificent cas-

cade, one of the finest in the Alps. It is not, however, well seen from any point easy of access.

The path to the *Upper Sand Alp*, or *Oberstaffel*, after crossing the *Bifertenbach*, ascends in zigzags the steep slope of the *Ochsenblanke*, and at the summit crosses the *Sandbach* just above the waterfall. In $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. (2 hrs. from the lower châteaux) the châteaux of the *Upper Sand Alp* are reached.

The position of these châteaux is striking and beautiful. They stand at about 6000 ft. above the sea, in the midst of bright green pastures, surrounded by rugged snow-capped peaks. The position is an admirable one for expeditions over the neighbouring glaciers, and travellers occasionally sleep there. They are, however, but comfortless quarters; the fleas are even more numerous than usual, and there have been complaints of incivility and extortion. Future travellers must recollect that such châteaux are frequently not occupied by the same men in successive seasons, and, at the same time, that what has appeared to these herdsmen to be lavish payment received from one traveller has encouraged them to make unreasonable demands upon others. From the *Upper Sand Alp* it is possible to reach *Amsteg*, in the valley of the *Reuss*, crossing the glaciers of the *Clariden Grat* (Rte. 34), and descending through the *Maderanerthal*. The route is said to be difficult, and requires good guides, ropes, &c. For a traveller intending to sleep at the upper châteaux, the best route from the *Lower Sand Alp* is to follow up the *Bifertenbach* to the foot of the *Biferten glacier*, and then wind round the *Ochsenstock* to the pastures of the *Upper Sand Alp*. A guide should be taken. In the way back to *Stachelberg*, the route may be varied by ascending the *Beckistock*; then, passing over the shoulder of the *Gemsstock*, the path is rejoined near the *Pantenbrücke*.

[The *Dödi* or *Tödi* (11,880 ft.) is the giant of this portion of the chain of Alps, and its summit had been rarely

ascended until 1863, since when its ascent has become popular. Th. Thut and Gab. Voegeli are guides.]

ROUTE 75.

MUOTTA TO THE BATHS OF STACHELBERG, BY THE BISI-THAL; OR TO ALTORF, BY THE KINZIG KULM.

The parallel valleys of the Muotta, which falls into the Lake of Lucerne near Brunnen, and the Schächen, which joins the Reuss near Altorf, are separated by a rugged range of mountains, a spur from the main range forming the W. boundary of the Lint-thal, whose extremities are the Axenberg, impending over the Bay of Uri (Rte. 18), and the Scheyenstock over Stachelberg. Two glens diverging to the southward from Muotta run up into this wild district. That to the E., called the Bisi-thal, leads to Stachelberg over the shoulder of the Scheyenstock, while the western glen leads over the Kinzig Kulm to Spiringen, in the Schächen-thal, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr. from Altorf. Neither pass presents scenery of the first order, but the first is a short cut from Muotta to Stachelberg. The pass of the Kinzig Kulm has some fine scenery, besides the historical interest connected with it, to interest travellers, but it does not lie conveniently in the route between any two frequented places.

From Muotta to Stachelberg is a laborious walk of 9 or 10 hrs. A good horse-path leads up the *Bisi-thal* to the hamlet of Eigen; the scenery is very wild; it is much narrower than the Muotta Thal, with overhanging precipices, and well wooded. In $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours the path reaches

Eigen, a scattered hamlet. Beyond this the path is practicable only for the pedestrian. No one should attempt this without a guide. After leaving

the Bisi Thal the scenery is the most savage conceivable. The summit of the mountain between the valleys, across which the path runs, is a rugged sunken plain of bare rock, many miles in extent, without vegetation of any kind except on a central green oasis (a little verdant plain), where the soil has collected, the whole surrounded by snowy peaks. The path is only traceable in many parts by the little piles of stones put up by the shepherds to guide themselves; and the streams, instead of finding their way into the valley as usual, tumble in cascades into the bowels of the mountain. This arises from the strata of the rock being perpendicular, or nearly so, which has also caused the soil to be washed down by the rain, leaving the upturned strata of the rock naked and bleached by the weather, something like a crevassed glacier turned to rock, and rugged in the extreme. On the side of the Linth - Thal this savage plain is bounded by precipices which overhang the baths of Stachelberg, and it is flanked by two bold peaks right and left. The descent to the Baths is very steep and fatiguing: there is no inn by the way.

From Muotta to the *Kinzig Kulm* the track leaves the path to Eigen near the opening of the Bisi Thal, ascending nearly due S. "The ascent is continued obliquely up a steep broken slope, till the path arrives eventually upon the wooded edge of a chasm, in which the invisible stream, which issues from the high valley leading up to the Pass, is heard descending in cataracts into the Muotta Thal. A track up the mountain side, on the right bank of this stream, is now pursued: and, after an hour's walking from Muotta, the abrupt ascent ceases, and the valley above is entered. Having passed through a wood, the path crosses the river for the first time by some châteaux ($1\frac{1}{2}$ hour from Muotta). The river is recrossed after another quarter of an hour: a second forest is traversed, and a third bridge crossed ($2\frac{1}{2}$ hours from Muotta). The part of the valley

below this bridge is narrow and picturesque, shut in on both sides by high white precipices. Over the E. range the sun did not appear, on the last day of July, till 8 o'clock. The rich green slopes N. of Muotta, speckled with chalets, and surmounted by vast cliffs, may be seen from favourable positions, whenever the eye is thrown back, through the opening of the valley. After the third bridge is crossed, a wild open basin is found, out of which the track is seen ascending from the S.W. corner. At this corner the river is again crossed. $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr. more are requisite before the summit of the pass is attained. As far as some chalets, about half-way up, the path may be traced without much difficulty, as it takes for its guide the falling stream, now reduced to a mere rill. Towards the summit, however, it is faintly marked, and liable to be confounded with other tracks. The stream is left behind, the direction of ascent being towards the south, among little hillocks and hollows filled with snow; over open ground, where many directions might be taken, and the proper route lost. A short pole marks the crest of the Pass (7280 feet), which is gained in about 4 hrs. from Muotta.

"Great interest is attached to the Kinzig Kulm, in an historical point of view, as being the scene of Suwarrow's disastrous march from Altorf in 1799. Having pounced down, as it were, upon the French from the heights of the St. Gothard, and driven them before him to Altorf, he there found his progress barred by the lake of Lucerne, without a boat to cross it, his troops exhausted by fatigue and famine, and the country so completely drained by war as to be quite incapable of supporting them. The only alternative that remained to him, was to attempt to join the forces of the allies, through the horrible defile of the Schächen; and to cross the rarely-trodden summits of the high Alps. The only passage up this valley was by a mere path; so that his army was obliged to advance in a single file, abandoning much of

their artillery and baggage. Their march lasted 14 hours; and before the rear-guard had left Altorf, the van had reached Muotta. Many of the Russians sank from fatigue by the wayside, and perished; others fell into the hands of the French, who hovered in their rear; the valley was strewn with dead bodies of men and horses, with arms and equipments. The remainder of this memorable march is described in Rte. 73. The picturesque attractions of this route are of a high order, as the view which it commands is of great extent and magnificence. This view is rather improved by being seen from an eminence to the E., reached in 10 m. from the Col.

"The descent into the *Schächen* Thal is long and steep, but the path is well traced, and the pole on the *Kinzig Kulm*, being seen for a long time, would help to guide the ascending pedestrian on this side, though it is useless for that purpose on the other. The path lies throughout down the pastures on the right bank of the stream, but generally at a considerable distance from it. The *Schächen* Thal is reached at a point a little below Spiringen, after a descent of $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. From thence to Bürglen it is a walk of $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour, and another $\frac{1}{2}$ hour brings the traveller to *Altorf*."—*R.E.*

8 or 9 hrs. walk from Muotta to Altorf.

ROUTE 76.

STACHELBERG TO ALTORF, BY THE
KLAUSEN PASS.

	h. m.
Stachelberg.	
Summit	4 15
Unterschächen	2 0
Spiringen	1 0
Altorf	1 15
	<hr/>
	8 30

Charge for a horse from Stachelberg to the summit, 12 fr.; to Altorf, 24 fr. and a trinkgeld. The path is so well marked that guides may be dispensed with; it is practicable for horses. It turns out of the valley of the Linth to the W. at Aue, about a mile above the baths, and ascends the valley of the Fätsch, or Urner Boden, keeping along its l. bank; a very stiff pull of $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours. Within a mile above the junction of the Fätsch and Linth, the valley belongs to canton Uri. It abounds in fine mountain pastures, and many of the inhabitants of the Schächen-thal pass their summer here among the cows. Urner Boden (there is an humble *Inn* $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from Stachelberg) is a scattered hamlet of 80 houses, with a church, extending the whole length of the valley. The culminating point, or Klausen pass, is a ridge of 6150 ft. high, connecting the snowy chain of the Clariden Alps on the S. with the shattered Zingel, Glatten, and Camli. From an eminence a little N. of the summit a very fine view is obtained of the opposite range of the Scheerhorn and Windgelle. On the top of the pass stands a little chapel. A little further on the path divides, leading l. by a rapid descent, or straight on along the higher level

until it falls in with that from the Kinzig Kulm, and descends upon Spiringen. This, though the longest, is said to be less fatiguing: it is probably also the less beautiful track.

The other and more frequented path descends by long and steep zigzags, by the rocks of the Balmwand, into the *Schächen-thal*; on the l. hand is seen the very pretty cascade of the *Stäubi*. Opposite the chapel of St. Anne a bergfall occurred in 1833, which arrested for some time the course of the Schächen, and produced a small lake. At the village of

Unter Schächen, the first on the Uri side (a small *Inn*, Rose, homely but tolerable), another branch of the valley opens S., and sends forth the main stream of the Schächen. An excursion may be made from here to the glacier which descends from the Gross Ruchen, wrongly called Rüchi on most maps. The Spitze, the mountain on the l. bank of the torrent, discharges dangerous avalanches in spring. At

Spiringen, and a little lower down, near the chapel of St. Anthony, there are inns, tolerably good for this country.

Bürglen, the birthplace of Tell, stands at the mouth of the Schächen-thal. (Rte. 34.)

Altorf (Rte. 34).

The scenery on this route is very interesting. No single point is equal to the view from the Klön See on the Prugel route (Rte. 73); but on the W. side the Schächen Thal is much finer than the Muotta Thal.

ROUTE 77.

STACHELBERG TO DISENTIS, BY THE
SAND GRAT.

This pass should be undertaken only in settled weather, and by practised pedestrians. A good guide is indispensable. (Gabriel Zweifel, at Lint Thal, and Jean Baptiste Moun, at Disentis, have been recommended; the latter is said to be well acquainted with the glaciers surrounding the Tödi.) Starting from Stachelberg, it is a very long day's work to reach Disentis—about 14 hrs.; and most travellers will find it advisable to sleep either at the upper or lower Sand Alp. The lower châteaux probably afford better accommodation, but they are 2 hrs.' walk nearer to Stachelberg. The ascent from Disentis being shorter than from Stachelberg, the pass may be made from that side in about 13 hrs.

The route from Stachelberg to the upper Sand Alp, 5½ hrs.' walk, has been described in Rte. 74. Beyond that point the track keeps near to the stream, and in about ½ hr. commences to ascend the *Sand glacier* in a S.W. direction, towards the *Katscharauls*, between which peak and that of the *Kleiner Tödi* lies the pass. The glacier, with proper precautions, offers neither difficulty nor danger; and in about 4 hrs.,

[Switz.]

or less if the snow be in good order, the summit of the *Sand Grat* is attained, 9272 ft. above the sea. The view of the surrounding Alps is extremely fine. The *Tödi* (11,883 ft.) is the most prominent object. It is here seen that, contrary to the common opinion, the highest summit of the Tödi does not lie in the range which forms the watershed between Glarus and the Grisons, but in a huge buttress projecting on its N. side. The peak which does lie in the main range, and which is taken for the Tödi when seen from the valley of the Vorder Rhein, is the *Piz Rosein*, a lower companion of the Tödi proper.

A steep but not very difficult descent, partly over loose stones, leads in about 1½ hr. (2 hrs. ascending) to the Disentis Alp, where there are 2 or 3 châteaux, occupied only in the height of summer. From the S. side of this pasture the descent lies through the beautiful glen of the *Val Rosein*, chiefly amongst pine-trees, overhung by rugged rocks. In 3 hrs. from the summit the path emerges on the road from Ilanz to Disentis, close to a wooden bridge across the stream from the Val Rosein.

About 2 m. distant by the high-road is *Disentis*. Inns: Krone (or Post), comfortable, civil landlord; Adler (or Rathhaus). (See Rte. 82.)

ROUTE 78.

STACHELBERG TO BRIGELS, OVER THE
KISTENGRAT.

"After crossing the Pantenbrücke (Rte. 74), which is nearly 2 hrs.' good walking from the baths of Stachelberg, the path over the Kistengrat turns rather sharply to the l., and ascends through pleasant woods and green pasturages for a time. $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from the Pantenbrücke, always rising, brings you to the summit of the little secluded nook in which the chalet of the *Limern Alp*, the highest belonging to the Lint-thal, is built. It consists of 3 miserable hovels of loose stones, one a piece for the cows, the goats, and the men. This is separated from the black precipitous face of the Selbsanft Mountain by a deep chasm, the bottom of which can scarcely be seen from the edge. Here a man and 2 boys, with 3 or 4 cows and some goats, pass 3 months of the year in seclusion, taking with them their supply of flour and bread. After quitting the *Limern Alp*, there was no semblance of a path, and the snow, which in the middle of the day before had been declared by the guide and peasantry to be quite impassable from its softness, had become early in the morning so hard and icy as to be nearly impassable in the steeper parts from its slipperiness; so great is the difference made by a few hours. It took us quite $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. to go from the chalet on the *Limern Alp* to the village of Brigels, and of these $3\frac{1}{2}$ were on the snow. We passed close by the Mütten See, leaving it on our left. It was then a mass of snow and ice, no water being visible. In a different state of the snow a path is sometimes taken across a lower part of the mountain, leaving the Mütten See on the right, but it was too steep

and slippery for us to attempt. We crossed a higher part of the mountain by aid of the solitary foot-tracks of some shepherd (made when the snow was softer, as the guide said, in search of some lost sheep), and which we luckily discovered just at the steepest part, where a slip would have carried one down over a precipice of unknown depth. The views of the distant Alps from the summit are very fine, and the descent into the valley of the Vorder Rhine, near Brigels, affords one continuous view of that valley from above Disentis, almost to its junction with the valley of the Hinter Rhine, and is also very fine; but the expedition was hardly worth the trouble and danger, although it enabled me to see the upper part of the Lint-Thal and the Pantenbrücke, and the greater part of the valley of the Vorder Rhine, without returning on my footsteps. Much depends on the season, the weather, and the state of the snow; but it is at least 9 hrs. from the baths of Stachelberg to Brigels, and one should start at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4, or at latest 5, o'clock in the morning. The *Inn* at Brigels is poor. The village itself was nearly destroyed by fire a few years since, and many of the houses are new. The chalet on the *Limern Alp* is a little out of the way, and it would save time to carry refreshment and avoid it."

ROUTE 79.

GLARUS OR STACHELBERG TO REICHENAU — RICHELTI AND SEGNES PASSES.

As mentioned in Rte. 74, there are two passes by which communication is kept up between Glarus and the valley of the Vorder Rhein in the Grisons. They are both most easily approached by the char-road which has been carried for 5 leagues up the Sernft Thal as far as Elm. Pedestrians approaching from Stachelberg will prefer the Richetli pass, which leads in 7 hrs. from the Baths to Elm.

About 3 m. above Glarus the valley of the Linth divides into two branches. Out of the l. or E. branch issues the Sernft: it is sometimes called Kleintal, to distinguish it from the larger W. branch, or Lint-thal.

About $\frac{1}{2}$ way to Enghi (*Inn*), rt. there is rather a fine waterfall; $\frac{1}{4}$ h. beyond this an isolated view of the Glärnisch, very noble. This mountain, owing to its form and position, is one of the most striking in Switzerland, seen from whatever side.

Matt, another village, stands on the rt. bank of the Sernft, and at the mouth of the minor vale of the Krauchthal, up which runs a path to Sargans, over the Riseten pass, 7 stunden.

The quarries in the Plattenberg, a mountain of the grauwacke and clay-slate, on the l. side of the valley, opposite Matt, furnish excellent slates for roofing or for writing. Most of the schools in Switzerland are supplied from hence: and the slate was formerly exported down the Rhine to Holland and the Indies. This slate is well known to geologists for the beautiful and perfect casts of fossil fish in which it abounds. The lower portion of the valley is unhealthy, as may be learned from the occurrence of goitre and crétinism (those afflicted with the latter are here called Tölpel

—dolt, blockhead—§ 18); but the inhabitants of the upper extremity are a fine and hardy race.

Elm. (*Inns*: a new inn, built in 1857, and kept by Jacob Elmer, is comfortable, and the landlord attentive; another inn, formerly well recommended, by the widow Freuler, appears to have been given up.)

The route from Stachelberg to Elm crosses the Linth and ascends a steep path on the rt. bank of the *Durna Thal*. At the head of that valley the track, which is faintly marked, bears away to the l., or nearly due E., and reaches the summit of the *Richetli Pass* in about 4 hrs. from the Baths. The descent on the E. side towards Elm is easy, and the track pretty well marked, so that no guide is needed.

[From Elm there is a pass over the *Ramin Grat* to Sargans or Pfeffers. The ascent is made in 4 hrs. by a very rough path, impassable for horses. The view from the summit is said to be very fine. The descent into the *Weisstannen Thal* is not easy to find without a guide. To reach Sargans that valley is followed from its head to its lower extremity at *Mels* near Sargans. In order to reach Pfeffers it is necessary to turn to the S.E. after passing the first châlet in the *Weisstannen Thal*, and to cross two ridges into the *Kalfeuser Thal*, or valley of the *Tamina*, which may be followed to Pfeffers. This is a long day's walk of fully 12 hrs., and a guide is indispensable. At *Vättis*, in the *Kalfeuser Thal*, there is a poor *Inn*.]

The *Segnes Pass* from Elm to Flims requires about 7 hrs. fair walking. Heinrich Elmer is well spoken of as a guide. The path crosses the Sernft just above the village, and follows the S.E. branch of that stream, fed by the snows of the *Ofen*, until it reaches the point where the stream coming from the *Segnes* joins the former. The path turns to the l., and, after following the second stream for a short distance, begins to mount nearly due E. over

pastures, and then over loose stones, where all trace of path is lost, until it approaches very near to a singular hole, or natural tunnel through the mountain, which is called the *Martinsloch*, and through which on four days in the year—March 4 and 5, and September 14 and 15—the sun shines upon the village ch. of Elm. This orifice is nearly directly under the peak of the *Segnes Spitz*, which is 800 or 900 ft. above it. To the E. several depressions are seen, over which a way might probably be found into the *Kalfeuser Thal*, but the *Segnes Pass* (8612 Eng. ft.) is that nearest to the *Martinsloch*. On the S. side of the pass some steep rocks and slopes of snow lead down to the *Flimser Firn*, a small nearly level glacier occupying a hollow in the mountain, and resembling a frozen lake. This is crossed in a S.E. direction, and the rocks are again reached on the E. side of a stream that issues from the glacier. Keeping at first to the l. of a tract of wet boggy ground, the track then descends over pastures to *Flims*, where there is a rough inn. Better quarters are found by pushing on about 6 m. by the char-road to *Reichenau* (*Inn: Adler*). (Rte. 82.)

ROUTE 80.

GLARUS TO ILANZ, BY THE PANIXER PASS.

To approach this pass from Glarus the char-road to Elm is followed (see Rte. 79). In going from *Stachelberg* by the *Richetli* pass, Elm is avoided, as the path to the *Panixer* is met soon after descending the *Richetli*, near to the *châlets* of *Wicheln*, about 4 m. from Elm. But it would be a hard day's work to accomplish both passes, and no accommodation would be found before reaching the village of *Panix*, fully 10 hrs. good walking from the *Baths*. From Elm to *Ilanz* is a walk of 8 hrs.

An hour and a quarter's walk from Elm brings the traveller almost to the head of the W. branch of the *Sernft Thal*, and in front of the opening to the S., which leads to the *Panixer* pass. The ascent of the pass occupies $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours, and for the last two hours the track is marked by poles. The scenery is wild and desolate; the ground rises in stages, or, as it were, in gigantic steps, forming open flats borne up by great precipices. The first of these flats, gained in $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour from the *Sernft Thal*, is the wild *Jäzer Alp*. Here are found the last *châlets*.

The summit of the pass (7906 ft.) commands a very comprehensive view over the southern mountains of the *Grisons*, but is not remarkable, except for extent.

The commencement of the descent into the *Grisons* is marked by poles, and turns towards the W. in the direction of a large glacier fed by the snow-fields of the *Hausstock*. The traveller is then left at the edge of a steep declivity to find his own way down. Here it is necessary to turn to the S., and descend the declivity, loose, wet, and it may be said trackless, in order to gain the path which may be perceived on an Alp or mountain-pasturage beneath. Before reaching this Alp, the stream, just sprung in a considerable volume from

its glacier, must be waded through. The way then lies for a time over the half-barren surface of the Alp, which is raised on immense precipices above the lower valley of Panix. The path then recrosses the stream (which runs in a deep chasm, hardly a yard in width, intersecting the alp), and then ascends for some distance along the face of the precipices on the E., passing in one place along a shelf cut out of the rock. There is no danger whatever here in summer; but after a fall of snow the passage might not be unattended with peril.

The path now opens upon a wide green pasturage, partially sloping down towards the S., and turning by degrees, first E. and then N.E., so as to double round the head of the ravine. The rest of the way to the village of *Panix*, where there is a small country *Inn*, presents no great difficulty, though some little embarrassment may be experienced in the woods. Panix is a long 2 hours distant from the pass to which it gives name. From here it is well worth while to look back upon the pass. All approach seems so barred by precipices that its accessibility would be considered almost impossible.

Below Panix there is a good path, running at a great elevation above the stream along the mountain-side, and eventually emerging upon the heights overlooking the valley of the Vorder Rhein, which sweeps along far below. The views of this valley, seen on the descent, are of extraordinary beauty. The path leads for a long time through pleasant fields and woodland scenes, but at length descends more rapidly upon Ruvis, immediately below which village it falls into the high road which conducts to Ilanz. From Panix to Ilanz (Rte. 82) is a walk of 2 hours.

Suwarrow, after the almost incredible march detailed in Rtes. 73, 75, remained like a stag at bay for three or four days at Glarus for the purpose of resting his wearied troops, though not a day was passed without skirmishes more or less severe with the enemy. At length, finding it

hopeless to attack a French force now so greatly superior in numbers to his own, he adopted the only remaining alternative, of again leading his exhausted and diminished followers over the high crest of the Alps, in order to rescue them from annihilation, and enable him to unite himself with the scattered fragments of the Russian army in the Grisons. He broke up from his quarters on the 5th of October. The lateness of the season, the difficulties of the passage, and the vastly superior force pressing on the heels of his dispirited soldiers, rendered this a far more hazardous enterprise than that which he had previously accomplished. The miserable path up the valley would barely admit two men abreast: along this the army painfully wound its way in single file. The difficulty of the ascent was greatly increased by a fall of snow 2 feet deep; but, as though the hardships of the way were not enough, the indefatigable French, ascending the opposite bank of the Sernft, allowed the Russians no respite from their harassing assaults. Numbers lay down, exhausted from fatigue, to perish on the snow; many, slipping down the insecure fragments of slate, and along the rocks, polished by the frost, were hurled over the precipices, and crushed in the abyss below, while the enemy's bullets were not slow in further thinning their ranks. After five days of toil, and four nights of little repose, since they were spent on the bare surface of the snow and the glaciers, where many men were frozen to death, Suwarrow crossed the ridge of Panix, between 7000 and 8000 ft. above the sea, and on the 10th of October gained the valley of the Rhine at Ilanz. Even on reaching the descent into the Grisons, many perished in attempting to cross the fearful chasm of the Araschka Alp. For months the foul birds and beasts of prey were gorged with their bodies, and the bones of many a warrior are still blanching in the crevices and ravines of the Jätzer. Thus terminated a march of 18 days' duration, perhaps the most extraordinary ever

performed by an army, incessantly engaged, fighting a battle almost every day, and obliged to traverse a country unknown, and completely destitute of resources. This remarkable retreat was accomplished with the loss of all his artillery, the greater part of the beasts of burden, and one-third of his men.

ROUTE 82.

COIRE, UP THE VALLEY OF THE VORDER RHEIN, TO DISENTIS, AND ACROSS THE OBERALP TO ANDERMATT.

	Stunden.	Eng. m.
Reichenau	2	= 6
Ilanz	4½	= 14
Truns	4	= 12
Disentis	2½	= 7½

Carriage-road to Andermatt; diligence daily in 9 hrs. as far as Disentis, where horses and cars can be obtained. The ascent of the Oberalp on the Grison side is rather rough: thence to Andermatt in good order.

It is scarcely possible to walk from Reichenau to Andermatt in less than 2 days. As far as Disentis the scenery is, in parts, very fine, not unlike Deeside in Scotland. Thence to Andermatt is chiefly over open Alpine pasturages. The number of small castles on heights above the Rhine is remarkable; it is as much the castellated Rhine here as below Mayence.

The great post-road from Coire (Rte. 67), up the valley of the Rhine, is followed as far as

6 m. *Reichenau—Inn*: Adler (Rte. 87)—where the waters of the Vorder and Hinter Rhein unite. The old road to Ilanz is carried along the rt. bank of the Rhine, through Bonaduz, and is about 3 m. shorter, but is less interesting, than the new carriage-road on the l. bank. Pedestrians following the new road may make a short cut avoiding Flims, so that there is little inducement to prefer the old road. The new carriage-road, planned by the engineer, M. La Nicca, is well constructed, though narrow.

The new road strikes up the side of the hills on the l. bank of the Rhine, to the village of Tamins, directly over Reichenau. Hence the traveller enjoys a beautiful view up both valleys of the Rhine. The entrance of that of Hinter-Rhein, up which runs the road to the Splügen, is guarded by the castle of Ræzüns, backed by villages and church-towers without number. Beyond *Trins* our road turns aside from the Rhine, and bends round a little monticule rising by a considerable and steep ascent into a small sequestered upland basin, in the midst of which lies

7 m. *Flims* (Rom. Flem.)—Adler, *Poste*, rough—a village 3360 ft. above the sea, named from the number of sources around it, *ad flumina*. [Here the path to Glarus, by the Segnes pass (Rte. 79), strikes off to Waldhauser, a rustic inn, in ¾ m.] After continuing some time out of sight of the Rhine, we join it again after a steep descent, about 3 miles beyond Lax. Pedestrians should inquire for a foot-path which cuts off the greater part of the détour involved by passing through Flims.

7 m. *Ilanz* (in Romansch, Glion, or Ilon).—(*Inns*: Oberalp, on rt. bank; Post, or Zum Lukmanier.) Ilanz is the only place in the valley deserving the name of town, and is the capital

of the Graue Bund, or Grey League, p. 220. Its 568 Inhab. speak Romansch, and this dialect prevails in a large portion of the valley. This place, magnificently situated on the rt. bank of the river, exhibits marks of poverty, though the country around is fertile; its walls are in a state of dilapidation. It was once the abode of many noble families. There is a fine panoramic view from the Piz Mundaun, S.W. of the town.

[The Pass of the Valserberg to Splügen is described Rte. 89. The Panixer pass to Glarus is described Rte. 80.]

From Ilanz to Tüsis is a day's walk of 10 or 11 hrs. by the rt. bank of the Vorder Rhein and the Savien Thal (Rte. 90). Scarcely any route could repay the traveller better than this; but the path is not always good. There is also a pass to Olivone, in the Val Blegno (Rte. 86).]

At Ruis, 2½ m. beyond Ilanz, the Panixer pass diverges, the scene of Suwarrow's retreat (Rte. 81).

5 m. Rhine is crossed to Tavanasa, and

4 m. is recrossed thence.

1 m. Trüms (Rom., Tron)—(*Inn*: Krone, "not well reputed")—a village in a singularly beautiful situation, at a little distance from the Rhine. Its 800 Inhab. are Rom. Catholics, and speak Romansch. Abandoned iron-works in the vicinity. Trüms is chiefly remarkable, however, as the cradle of liberty among the Rhoëtian Alps. Beneath the shade of the neighbouring forest the peasants met at the beginning of the 15th century, to concert plans for liberating themselves and their children from the oppression and slavery of their feudal lords, three or four of whose castles, now in ruins, may still be seen frowning down from the neighbouring crags.

Near the entrance of the village, on the side of Ilanz, stands the decayed but venerated fragment of a *Sycamore* (*Acer Pseudoplatanus*; German, Ahorn), now 6 or 7 centuries old, a mere trunk, cloven and hollow, be-

neath whose once-spreading branches the deputies of the peasants met the nobles who were favourable to their cause, in March, 1424, and took the oath of fidelity to one another, and to their free constitution then established. According to tradition this remarkable oath was administered by the Abbot of Disentis. The confederates swore "to be and to continue good and true friends; to hold together in war and in peace; to maintain each man his own rights by law, and not by the strong hand; to withstand all lawless violence; and to punish the unruly who will not obey the sentence of the law." Such is the origin of the GREY LEAGUE, *Graue Bund* (Rte. 66), so called from the grey beards or the grey homespun garb of the venerable assembly. A vigorous young shoot has sprouted forth from the hollow trunk, and is protected by a railing. Close to the sycamore tree stands the little *Chapel of St. Anne*, whose portico is adorned with Bible texts, "In libertatem vocati estis;" "Ubi Spiritus Domini, ibi Libertas;" "In te speraverunt Patres;" &c., and with two fresco paintings. One represents the first formation of the League, the principal figures being the Abbot of Disentis, in the robes of his order; the Count of Sax, with a white flowing beard; and the lord of Rhœtzuns. The other picture shows the renewal of the oath in 1778: the deputies here appear with starched frills, and hair powdered and frizzled; in silk stockings and walking-sticks. It is recorded that the deputies on the former occasion brought their dinners in sacks on their backs, which they hung up by nails to the rocks, while they quenched their thirst in the brook which traverses the meadow of Tavanasa. The more courtier-like deputies of the second meeting were more sumptuously feasted in the mansion of the Abbot. In the so-called *Ritter-saal*, a building belonging to the Abbey of Disentis, the arms of all the magistrates since 1424 are painted on the walls.

The inhabitants of the upper part of the valley, about Disentis, are

Roman Catholics, as will become apparent from the increased number of churches and crosses. The mountains which bound it change from limestone to primitive rocks, and give a different character to its scenery.

Opposite *Somvix* (Rom., Sumvig; Lat., Summus-vicus), abounding in cherry-trees, the valley of that name opens out; through it is a path to Olivone by the Greina pass. A wooden bridge, 160 ft. high, 210 ft. long, carries the road over the Rusein-Tobel.

$7\frac{1}{2}$ *Disentis* (Dí pronounced Dee)—(*Inn*: H. Condrau).—Living is cheap: $5\frac{1}{2}$ frs. board and lodging a-day. Game plentiful. The *Benedictine Abbey* of Disentis (Rom., Mustär; Lat., Monasterium) is one of the oldest ecclesiastical establishments in Switzerland, founded, it is said, by the Scotch monk Siegbert, a companion of St. Gall, and was the nucleus of early civilization in this wild and remote country. It stands on an elevated terrace, 3700 ft. above the sea-level, with a small village clustered round its base, and near the head of a rather long ascent. It is protected by a forest above it from falling avalanches, on the l. bank of the Vorder-Rhine, at the junction of the two Alpine torrents which unite in forming that river. The Abbey has twice been burned down in modern times, first in 1799, when the French invaders burnt it, and along with it the library formed in the 7th and 8th centuries. Provocation was given for this act of vengeance, by the murder of a party of French soldiers, who had been disarmed and taken prisoners by the Swiss Landsturm, and who were here set upon by the infuriated inhabitants of this part of the valley, and literally cut or torn to pieces. The abbey, again burnt in 1846, but rebuilt, and now used as a school for the Canton, has an imposing appearance, from its size and position, towering above the humble hovels of the village below, as its rich and powerful abbots, in the middle ages, lorded it over their vassals. They were, at one time, firm allies of the

House of Habsburg, and the abbot and his banner occupied the van at the battle of Morgarten. At a later period, however, 1424, Abbot Peter of Pontaningen was one of the founders of Grison liberty, who met under the sycamore at Trüns.

A newspaper is published here in the Romansch dialect.

There is a path hence up the Medelser Thal to Santa Maria, and thence over the Lukmanier to Bellinzona (Rte. 85); a 2nd, over the Uomo Pass and down the Val Piora to Airolo, $10\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. (Rte. 84); a 3rd, difficult and dangerous, runs N. over the Dödi-Grat, by the Sandalp, to the Baths of Stachelberg (Rte. 77); a 4th, by the Kreutzli Pass and Maderaner Thal (Rte. 83) to Amsteg, 10 hours' good walking.

Jean Baptiste Monn is recommended as a guide.

A *Railway* through the ridge of the Lukmanier has been surveyed. (See Introduction, § 8.)

Disentis is a convenient station for travellers bent on exploring these and other passes. The charge is rather high for very poor cattle, viz. 11 frs. a-day for each horse, with a bonnemain of 1 fr. a-day to each of the guides. But in summer time the horses are sent up to the High Alps to carry hay, &c., and require to be fetched a long distance. If required for several days a less price will be taken.

The new road from Disentis up to the Oberalp leaves the Medelser Thal on the l., and ascends the vale of Tavétsch by the l. bank of the Vorder-Rhine, now reduced in breadth and volume to a mountain-torrent. 5. Sedrûn, or Tavétsch (*Inn*: Krone, good, better quarters than Disentis), the chief place in the valley,

2. *Ruaras* (Rom., St. Giacomo). Lodging may be had in the priest's house, who also has some minerals. On a hill nearly surrounded by the Rhine stand the ruins of the *Castle of Pultmenga* or *Pontaningen*. 10 min. walk above Ruaras the path to the Oberalp splits; [and the rt.-hand branch, a bridle-path, is shorter and better, and

commands finer views, owing to its keeping more to the heights, which it at once ascends, and rapidly. It joins the road at the E. end of the Oberalp See.]

Above Ruaras a narrow gorge leads out of the lower into an upper valley. This part of it is dreadfully exposed to avalanches. In 1808 one fell from the Ruenatsch upon the village of Selva, and killed 42 human beings and 237 head of cattle.

The carriage-road is carried through Tschiamot.

Tschiamot the last village in the Tavetsch deserving that name, and provided with a church; it is 5000 ft. above the sea. The valley of Tavetsch is the cradle of the Vorder-Rhine: it is supplied from 3 branches, having their source in the vast mountains and glaciers which wall in its upper extremity; the *Crispalt*, on the S. side, the *Sexmadan* (Cima de Badus), and the *Cornäre*. At Tschiamot the l.-hand path is crossed, after which, adieu to the Rhine; a constant ascent leads the traveller to the summit of the pass, 7172 ft. above the sea.

On reaching the opposite declivity, a small lake, famed for its trout, lies at the foot of the traveller. This is the *Oberalp See*, one of the head-waters of the Reuss: it is beset with bogs. This spot was the scene of a hard struggle between the French and Austrians in 1799. The road skirts along the N. or rt. side of the lake. The vale of Urseren, with Hospital in the distance, and the house on the Furca, now open out to view, and a long descent by well-drawn zigzags, which may be much abridged by the pedestrian, first through a naked valley of pastures, and then down an arduous and broken declivity, brings the traveller to

Andermatt (Christin's Inn, good), on the St. Gothard (Rte. 34). To walk hence to Disentis will require $7\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.; to drive $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

ROUTE 83.

AMSTEG TO DISENTIS, BY THE PASS OF THE KREUZLI.

This Pass requires from 10 to 11 hrs., and should not be tried without a guide. Jos. Maria Trösch and Ambrose Zraggen, of Silenen, are good guides.

"The path runs at starting up the *Maderaner Thal*, on the l. bank of the Kerstlenbach, which joins the Reuss at Amsteg. For a few minutes it is by its side: the ascent to gain the level of the fields above the closing gorge then commences, and continues for about $\frac{1}{4}$ hr. through the forest. The valley behind the gorge is thus entered and followed up; the chapel of St. Antony and little hamlet of Bristen are passed, and a little further on the river is crossed (40 min. from Amsteg), and recrossed 10 min. afterwards. An hr. after leaving Amsteg the stream from the Ezli Thal is crossed. This valley leads to the Kreuzli, and the Maderan Thal is now left. A considerable ascent is necessary to get into the Ezli Thal, as the path has to mount above the head of a high fall. The first bridge over its stream, above the fall, is not crossed, but the three following are. Soon after crossing the third of these bridges (about 2 hrs. from Am-

steg), the last trees are passed, and the path mounts continually for nearly another couple of hours along the W. flank of a naked desolate ravine. It skirts on its way, in the bed of the stream, the remains of an immense avalanche which fell 1849—a mass of snow, dirt, and fallen rocks, probably $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile long. Beside it stands a cross with the date 1834. A small marshy basin succeeds the ravine, the valley here changing its direction from S. to W. At this basin the way to the Kreuzli quits the valley, passing the river and ascending the eastern mountains. There is a bridge; the track is not perceptible in the neighbourhood of the river, though it soon reappears during the subsequent ascent.

“It is well worth while to follow up the valley for half a mile or a mile above the basin just mentioned, instead of immediately leaving it for the pass. The river is pursued towards the W., till it is lost in a short defile beneath the snow, with which the bed of the narrow passage is choked up. A multitude of gigantic blocks, heaped one above another, form one side of this cleft in the mountains. The snow affords good walking, and the defile soon gives admittance into a large hollow of the highest savage character. It is utterly sterile and uninhabited; a mere receptacle for fallen rocks and snow. The glaciers of the Crispalt sweep down upon it; craggy mountains of the boldest elevation girdle it in; their splintered summits rise on all sides high into the sky. To visit this spot in the journey over the Kreuzli would not increase the duration of the day's walk by much more than half an hour.

“The track which leads to the Kreuzli pass, after the marshy basin is left and the river crossed, continues to ascend towards the E. up an uneven slope, until it reaches the opening of a kind of high, short valley, by pursuing which the summit is to be gained. From this point there is an unexpected view of the bay of Uri, and of the plain at the entrance of the Reuss into the lake. The last ascent to the

Kreuzli is gentle but rough, the ground being covered with loose blocks, alternating with patches of snow. The track only appears at intervals, generally upon the snow; but the course of the little valley is in itself a sufficient guide. The crest of the pass, marked by a pole, is reached in 5 hrs. direct from Amsteg, or $6\frac{1}{2}$ allowing halts to enjoy the view, and has an elevation of 7710 feet above the sea.

“The views from the Kreuzli are on both sides of an extremely savage nature, amongst the neighbouring mountains and glaciers. There is also an extensive view, looking down the valley, of the snowy mountains between the Grisons and the canton Ticino.

“It is a bad descent into the valley of Strim down a steep declivity, broken by numbers of jutting crags. Occasional goat-tracks supply the place of a regular path. Neither is the track down the valley—when its bed is attained, and the ice-cold river, just sprung from its glaciers, crossed—anything like a good path. It requires two long and rather fatiguing hours from the summit of the pass to reach the village of Sedrun or Tavetsch in the valley of the Fore Rhine. The valley of Strim is uninhabited, and its nakedness is not relieved by a single tree, not even a stunted fir. From Sedrun to Disentis down the valley of the Fore Rhine is an easy walk of 2 hrs. (See Rte. 82.)

ROUTE 84.

DISENTIS TO AIROLO, BY THE UOMO PASS. (11 hrs.).

"As far as the hospice of Santa Maria, 5 leagues from Disentis, the way to this pass is the same as that to the Lukmanier. (Rte. 85.) A little tributary valley of the Medelser Thal opens from the S.W. into the plain of Santa Maria, and leads to the Uomo pass. The path ascends from the plain on the rt. bank of the stream which waters this valley. There is no difficulty on the ascent, which is rapid and continuous. The valley is narrow and barren, and presents nothing remarkable. The summit of the pass is reached easily in an hour and a half from Santa Maria. Its height is 7160 ft.; the ground is flat and boggy, and not adapted for a path: it is accordingly traced along a gentle slope on the S. edge of the marsh, where there are one or two rude chalets.

"The descent is scarcely begun before a commanding view of the knot of the St. Gothard Alps opens out in front above the lesser mountains. The pastures, or 'Alp' of Piora, down which the path lies, produce a cheese of considerable repute in the canton. The descent is at first rapid, but then reaches a little plain and lake, and then the lake of *Rotom*. The descent from the lake is abrupt and long, the river forming in quick succession three very fine falls.

"After passing the third fall, the path is fairly out of the Val Piora, and on the flanks of the Val Leventina, having been throughout, during the descent from the pass, on the rt. bank of the stream, which it now abandons. The rest of the way to Airolo is very interesting. The Val Leventina and the St. Gothard road are left far beneath, and the path continues high on the

slopes of the mountains, passing through the village of Madrano. Here the opening of the Val Canaria breaks the side of the chain: the path descends, crosses the stream issuing from it, and falls into the St. Gothard road a little below Airolo."—R. E.

ROUTE 85.

PASS OF THE LUKMANIER — DISENTIS TO OLIVONE IN THE VAL BLEGNO.

10 hrs.

A path, much frequented in summer, and practicable throughout on horseback, though very steep towards its two extremities. It is a long and not very interesting pass, but has acquired importance from the comparative facilities it offers for the construction of a Railway with tunnels through the Alps—so as to connect Switzerland, W. France, and South Germany, with Sardinia, Lombardy, and the cities of Milan, Turin, and Genoa. A succession of long and comparatively level valleys on either side of the pass have caused it to be surveyed for the construction of a Railway, and Mr. Hemans, an English engineer of great experience, has ascertained that it is practicable by means of a tunnel 15 m. long, which is to enter the mountain at Perdatsch and to emerge at Camps in Val Blegno.

The valley of *Medels*, up which this route lies as far as Sta. Maria, runs in a direction nearly due S. from Disentis, and is traversed through its whole length by the Middle Rhine. The entrance to it is by a rocky and wooded gorge, about 2 m. from Di-

sentis, called Conflons, because the Vorder and Mittel-Rhein unite in it. In the midst of it the Rhine forms two cascades, and beyond it the valley opens out into a wide basin, lined with pastures and forests, in the remoter parts of which the bear is still found, while the chamois abounds on the granite peaks forming the highest summits of the surrounding Alps. The path scales the steep and craggy ridge to the rt. of the gorge, of which it affords but a very imperfect view, and then descends into the valley, opposite Curaglia, a village on the rt. bank of the M. Rhine, placed just above the influx of the torrent which descends from the Medelser Gletscher. A little further up the Rhine is crossed to

Platta (accommodation at the Curé's), the principal place in the Medelser Thal. In 1 hr. more, passing through the hamlet St. Rocco, a spot is reached, whence, looking back, the view of the Dödi is superb. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. higher is *Perdätsch*—situated at the opening of the Val Cristallina, which runs in a S.E. direction, and sends forth one branch of the Middle Rhine. It is celebrated for its rock-crystals, out of which the shrine of St. Carlo Borromeo, in the Duomo of Milan, was formed. The ascent here becomes more rapid, and the scenery wilder and finer. Huge rocks are jumbled about. Below *Perdätsch* the Mittel-Rhein plunges, in a fall 100 ft. high, into a deep gulf. The little *hospices* of St. John and St. Gall, each with its warning bell, are passed, and, in about 5 hrs. from Disentis, Sta. Maria is reached. Here a stream descends from the W. out of the Lake Dim, at the end of the Val Cadelina; and another issues from the foot of the Monte Scuro.

Sta. Maria is a hospice kept up for the benefit of travellers, and, though very wretched in appearance, the traveller may procure tolerable accommodation for horse and man.

$\frac{1}{2}$ hr's. walk above Sta. Maria brings you to the culminating point of the Pass of the *Lukmanier* (in Latin, Mons Lucumonium; in Romansch,

Lukmajn, or Culm Sta. Maria), 6340 ft. above the sea.

It is said that the army of Pepin passed this way, A.D. 754, on his invasion of Italy. Poles, stuck into the rocks, mark the direction of the path across the Col. A horse-path over the Uomo Pass (Rte. 84) branches off from the hospice to Airolo, through the Val Termini, or Val Forno, the Val Piora, by Altanca, Brugnasco, and Madrano.

A cross on the summit of the Lukmanier marks the boundary of the Grisons and Canton Tessin. Hence the path to Olivone and the Val Blegno descends the Alpine Val Casaccia, in 1 hr. to

The Hospice of *Casaccia*; and, a few miles lower, to that of

Camperio, both founded, it is said, by St. Carlo Borromeo, for the reception of travellers.

The first glimpse of the spires and plain of

Olivone, from the wooded steep of the Lukmanier, is very striking, the descent to it beautiful, and the village itself is one of the most charming spots in the Alps. The small *Inn* of Stefano Bolla is comfortable, though of no inviting exterior, and rather high-priced. *Diligence* to Biasca.

Olivone is the highest village in the Val Blegno, and stands at the point where the lateral valley of Casaccia joins it; it has about 740 Inhab.

The Val Blegno (Germ. Polenzerthal) is traversed by the stream of the Brenno, which enters it from a narrow cleft in the mountain; and a tolerable char-road, in part carriage-road, has recently been formed along the l. bank of the stream, from Olivone to Biasca, on the route of the St. Gothard (Rte. 34), a distance of 14 m. All the valley on the W. is very beautiful.

Many of the chocolate-sellers and chestnut-roasters, who swarm in the streets of the cities of Italy, come from the Val Blegno.

Biasca, on the St. Gothard road.

ROUTE 86.

ILANZ TO OLIVONE IN THE VAL BLEGNO,
BY THE PASSES OF THE DISRUT AND
GREINA.

This route (14 hrs.) leads S. from Ilanz up the *Lugnetz Thal*, a beautiful valley, contracted at its opening into the valley of the Rhine to a mere defile, as far as *Kumbels* ($1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. from Ilanz). A little farther up the valley divides; the E. branch, the *St. Peter's Thal*, leads to the pass of the *Valserberg* (Rte. 89); the W. branch, or *Vrin Thal*, leading to the *Val Blegno*. Near the junction are the Baths of *Peiden*, where tolerably good accommodation may be had. The road to the *Disrut*, after leaving *Kumbels*, passes for a very long time over an elevated and extensive tract of open fields, dotted with several villages and hamlets, and commanding a view up the main valley as far as the pass of the *Valserberg*. At length the narrow upper valley of *Vrin* is entered, and, after crossing a deep ravine, the village of *Vrin*, which gives its name to the valley, is reached (5 hrs. from Ilanz). The curé here will give lodging to travellers.

On leaving *Vrin* the path descends to and crosses the river, which it recrosses almost directly afterwards. The last hamlet is *Buzasch* ($1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. from *Vrin*). From *Buzasch* to the summit of the *Disrut* is an ascent of nearly 2 hrs. For the first hour there is a path marked; the rest of the way may be called pathless. By a gap, in which snow lies, is at last attained, not the crest of the *Disrut*, but the

narrow edge of the sharply serrated ridge which divides the hollow leading down to *Buzasch* from another leading down to *Camps*. The edge of this ridge is gained close to the point where it diverges from the chain which separates the valleys of *Somvix* and *Vrin*. The ascent from here to the *Disrut* is difficult but short (about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour). Immediately on the left is seen a shallow gully partly filled with snow, the sides of which are composed of small loose fragments of rock. The head of this gully is the pass of the *Disrut*. When the surface of the snow is too hard and steep to be practicable, it is necessary to make one's way as well as possible up the loose rocks and stones, which slip away beneath the feet. The summit of the *Disrut* (7280 ft.) is thus gained, $8\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. after leaving Ilanz. The view of rugged mountains from the point is exceedingly fine.

From this point there is a very bad descent into a plain below (the ascent must be extremely difficult). After a short $\frac{1}{2}$ -hr. of what cannot be called walking, but rather scrambling and slipping, down a crumbling declivity and a bed of snow lying in the depths of a rift, the highest part of the great plain is reached. Right above the head, but just at a safe distance, a glacier is seen pushing itself forward to the edge of a precipice, and strewing the ground at its foot, almost close to the passer by, with heaps of fragments of ice.

The ascent to the *Greina* (6520 ft.) is all but nominal. The *Greina* is in fact merely the western edge of this long plain. The descent on the other side into the *Val Kamadra*, the highest part of the *Val Blegno*, is rather difficult. After crossing a wet stony flat, it is requisite to ascend the right hand of the two spurs into which the broken ridge is split, and then to make a very steep descent among stones and blocks of rock into the head of the valley, which is gained in about half an hour after leaving the summit of the *Greina*. The head of the *Val Kamadra* is partially occupied by a great bed of snow, and is overhung on the W. by the vast

Kamadra glacier, a portion of the same field of ice to which the Medelser glacier belongs. Once in the head of the Val Kamadra all the difficulties of the passage are surmounted. The rest of the way to *Olivone* is sufficiently easy, but will occupy full 3 hrs. more. It is advisable to manage to reach *Olivone* by daylight, as there is a ravine between *Ghirone* and *Olivone*, where the path skirts the edge of unguarded precipices, which makes the way rather awkward after night-fall.

The *Greina* may also be passed either from *Somvix* or *Trons* in the *Grisons* by following up the valley of *Somvix*. From *Olivone* downwards there is a carriage-road through the *Val Blegno* (Rte. 85).

ROUTE 87.

COIRE TO CHIAVENNA—THE VIA MALA
—PASS OF THE SPLÜGEN.

8½ posts = 73 miles.

	Posts.	Eng. m.
Coire.		
Tusis	2	= 18
Andeer	1	= 9
Splügen	1½	= 11
Campodolcino	2½	= 24½
Chiavenna	1½	= 10

In posting to *Chiavenna*, travellers are enabled to take the same post-carriage through the whole distance. The supply of post-horses is sometimes insufficient.

An extra horse must be taken in the ascent from *Tusis* or *Chiavenna* to the summit.

Diligences twice daily in summer by the *Splügen* to *Como* and *Milan*, and over the *Bernardin*; but by the diligence one side or the other will be passed in the night. The road is excellent all the way. It is a drive of about 7 hrs., posting, from *Coire* to *Splügen*, and about 4½ hrs. from *Splügen* to *Coire*; 6 hrs. by diligence or posting from *Splügen* to *Chiavenna*.

Persons starting by the first steamer from *Friedrichshafen*, and taking the train at *Rorschach*, may now reach *Coire* in time for the 2nd diligence, which runs throughout the summer months, and so reach *Chiavenna* about 12 at night on the 3rd day from *London*.

From *Coire* (Rte. 67) to *Reichenau* there is not much deserving notice in the scenery of the valley of the *Rhine*; but the mountain *Gallanda*, on its l. bank, is a conspicuous object; and on the same side of the *Rhine*, the village of *Felsberg*, partly buried by a slip from threatening rocks above it. The road runs along a nearly level bottom as far as

Reichenau—Imn, zum *Adler* (*Aigle*), formerly a convent, good and moderate—a group of houses situated at the junction of the two *Rhines*. Its chief building is the handsome whitewashed *Château*, with garden, a seat of the *Planta* family. At the end of the last century it was converted into a school by the burgo-master *Tschärner*. In 1793 a young man calling himself *Chabot* arrived here on foot, with a stick in his hand and a bundle on his back. He presented a letter of introduction to *M. Jost*, the head master, in consequence of which he was appointed usher; and for 8 months gave lessons in French, mathematics, and history. This forlorn stranger was no other than *Louis Philippe*, late King of the French, then *Duke de Chartres*, who had been forced, by the march of the French army, to quit *Bremgarten*, and seek concealment here in the performance of the humble duties of a school-master, and in that capacity made himself equally beloved by masters and pupils. His secret was known only to *M. Jost*. His cheerful room is still pointed out, and 2 paintings—scenes from his own life—presented while he was King. During his residence here he must have heard the news of his father's death on the scaffold, and his mother's transportation to *Madagascar*. The house contains 2 pictures by *Winterhalter*, presented by *Louis Philippe* to *M. Planta*, and seve-

ral other memorials of the late Royal Family of France. [Those who are descending, and have already traversed the main road, may take the *Kunkels Pass* to Ragatz (Route 66*d*).]

At Reichenau the road is carried first over the united Rhine and then over the Vorder Rhein by covered wooden bridges, each of one fine arch. The lower bridge is 237 ft. long and 80 ft. above the river. The more abundant waters of the Hinter Rhein coming from the Bernardin and the foot of Mount Adula are of dirty blue; while those of the Vorder Rhein, rising in the glaciers of the Crispalt and Lukmanier, are observed to be of a whitish grey tint. The road up the Vorder Rhein to its source, and to Andermatt, on the St. Gothard, is described in Rte. 82.

The road to the Splügen follows the course of the Hinter-Rhein. On the top of a commanding rock on the l. bank of the Rhine, and approached by a long bridge, rises the Castle of Rhœtzuns (Rhœtia ima): it is still inhabited.

This part of the Rheinthal, called the valley of *Domleschg* (Vallis Tomiliasca), is particularly remarkable for the vast number of *castles* (21) which crown almost every rock or knoll on either side of the river, mostly in ruins, sometimes standing out boldly from a dark background of forest, at others so identified by decay, by the weather tints, and by the lichen growth, with the apparently inaccessible rocks on which they stand, as barely to be distinguished. Their picturesque donjons and battlements contribute not a little to enhance the charms of the landscape; they serve at the same time as historical monuments to commemorate the revolution by which the power of a tyrannical feudal aristocracy, the lords of these fastnesses, was broken, and their strongholds burnt by the peasants of this valley, whom they had long oppressed.

Another peculiarity of this district is the intricate intermixture of language and religion. There are scarcely two adjoining parishes, or even ham-

lets, speaking the same tongue and professing the same faith. Thus at Coire German is the prevailing language, and Protestant the religion of the majority; at Ems, the first village on the road, Romansch (Rte. 66) is spoken. Tamins and Reichenau are Catholic and German; Bonaduz, divided from them by the Rhine, is Catholic, and speaks Romansch. Rhœtzuns and Kätzis are two Roman Catholic villages; but in the first the language is German, in the second Romansch. The inhabitants of Heinzenberg and Tüsis, are Protestant and German; of Zillis and throughout the valley of Schams, Protestant and Romansch. Splügen and Hinter Rhein form the boundary at once of the Romansch language and Protestant religion.

The castle of *Ortenstein*, on the rt. bank of the Rhine, is one of the finest and best preserved in the valley: it is still inhabited by the Travers family.

Near the village of *Kätzis* a beautiful view opens out, on the opposite side of the Rhine, up the valley of Oberhalbstein.

The Rhine valley hereabouts exhibits dismal traces of the ravages produced by the torrent *Nolla*, which, rising at the base of the Piz Beveren, on the W. of our route, joins the Rhine nearly at right angles to the direction of the course of that river. It at all times pollutes the waters of the Rhine with its mud, and is subject to very sudden swells after rain, when it rushes down, tearing up the rocks and carrying along with it heaps of stone, mud, and gravel, which not only overspread its own banks, but frequently block up the bed of the Rhine and cause desolating inundations. Thus a district, previously fertile and beautiful, has been transformed since 1807 into a desert, and its fields either buried under stony rubbish or converted into marsh. The evil has been annually increasing for several years past; but hopes are entertained of arresting it and recovering the land. With this view, extensive dykes are being constructed along the banks of the Rhine.

Tusis (*Inns*: H. de la Via Mala, very good;—Aigle d'Or, Poste, good)—a village of 670 Inhab., finely situated on a terrace at the mouth of the Via Mala gorge. *Tusis*, according to some, is only the word *Tuscia*, the country of the Tuscans, who first colonized these valleys, changed in the Romansch dialect. *Tusis* was almost entirely destroyed by fire in 1845, and is now a street of new houses.

Immediately beyond *Tusis* the muddy stream of the Nolla, flowing through a waste of débris, is crossed by a handsome bridge. On the rt., at the end of the valley, appears the peak of the Piz Beveren.

[Opposite *Tusis* the *Albula* enters the Rhine from the S.E., through the *Schyn Pass*, strongly resembling the *Via Mala*, as it must have been before the excellent modern road. Passing *Sils*, a road follows either bank of the stream; the l. is the hottest, the rt. is the finest. By the latter, 2¼ hr. *Untermtlen*, ½ hr. *Solis*. Thence over the *Solisbrücke*, some 1500 ft. above the *Albula* river, to ¾ hr. *Obervatz* (whence a rough char-road to *Chur*); or 1 hr. to *Tiefenkasten*, on the carriage-road between *Coire* and the *Engadine* (Rte. 92-93).]

Above *Tusis* the valley of the Rhine seems closed up by the mountains; it is only on a nearer approach that the eye discovers the opening of that singular chasm which has cleft them through, affording a passage for the river, and in modern times, by artificial means, for the road. The l. or E. side of this colossal portal is guarded by the castle of *Realt* (*Rhætia Alta*), standing in the fork between the *Albula* and the Rhine, and from its lofty platform, 400 ft. high, looking down upon both valleys. It is accessible only from the E., and by crossing the Rhine; on all other sides the rock is a precipice. These mouldering ruins are traditionally reported to owe their origin to *Rhætus*, chief of the Etruscans, who, driven out of Italy by an invasion of the Gauls, established his stronghold on this spot B.C. 287, and transplanted into the Alps the people and language of Etru-

ria. The ruined chapel of St. John, on a neighbouring height, is stated to have been the earliest, and for a long time the only Christian temple in the valley, where heathenism prevailed to a comparatively late period.

It is not above ½ m. from *Tusis* to the *Via Mala*, and, as the ascent begins immediately, the traveller should at once set off and traverse the *Via Mala* on foot; the carriage will be some time in overtaking him.

The *VIA MALA*, which commences about ½ m. above *Tusis*, and extends for a distance of more than 3 miles, is one of the most sublime and tremendous defiles in Switzerland. It is difficult to give with any precision the dimensions of this gorge, which has cleft the mountains through the chine. The precipices, which often rise perpendicularly on both sides of it, sometimes even overhanging their base, are certainly in some places 1600 ft. high, and in many places not more than 10 yards apart. The Rhine, compressed within this narrow stony bed, to the width of a pigmy rivulet, is barely audible as it rushes through the depths below the road.

The rocks of slate and limestone, composing the walls of the ravine, are so hard that they appear to have suffered no disintegration from the weather; the fracture is so fresh and sharp that, were the convulsive force from below, which divided them, again called forth to unite them, it seems as though the gulf would close, and leave no aperture behind.

When the traveller enters the mouth of the defile, the sudden transition from the glare of sunshine to the gloom of a chasm, so narrow that it leaves in some places but a strip of sky visible overhead, is exceedingly striking. The walls of rock, at intervals on both sides, afforded in their natural state not an inch of space along which a goat's foot could clamber; and, in ancient times, this part of the pass was deemed quite inaccessible. The peasants gave it the name of the *Lost Gulf* (*Trou perdu*, *Verlorenes Loch*); and, when they wanted to go from *Tusis* to the higher valley of *Schams*,

they ascended the vale of the Nolla for some distance, clambering over the tops of high mountains, round the shoulder of the Piz Beveren, and descended on the opposite side at Suvers. A second road, formed in 1470, crossed the mountains as before, but dipped down, from the village of Rongella, into the depths of the Via Mala, near the first bridge; still avoiding altogether the Trou perdu. This inconvenient path, after being used for more than 300 years, was superseded by the present magnificent highway constructed by the engineer Pocobelli. Avoiding the useless détour, and the fatiguing ascent and descent, he at once plunged into the defile, and pierced the projecting buttress of rock, which had previously denied all access to it, by the gallery or tunnel of the Verlohrenes Loch, 216 ft. long, through which the road now passes. The view, looking back from this, through the dark vista of black rock, and the fringe of firs, upon the ruined tower of Realt and the sun-lit valley of Domleschg, is very pleasing. The grooves of the boring-rod, by which the very hard slate rock is everywhere streaked, indicate how arduous was the labour of constructing this part of the road. It was literally forcing a passage through the bowels of the earth; and the whole width of the carriage-way has been gained by blasting a notch, as it were, in the side of the mountain. For more than 1000 ft. it is carried along beneath a stone canopy, thus artificially hollowed out. The road is protected by a parapet wall, below which, at a depth of many hundred feet, the contracted Rhine frets the foot of the precipice. The road is in places steep, and fit for only one carriage to pass. A little higher up, the gorge bulges out into a sort of basin, in the midst of which stands a solitary house; but it soon contracts again, and the scenery of the pass may be said to attain the height of grandeur beyond the first of the 3 bridges, by means of which the road is conveyed from side to side of the Rhine.

This portion of the pass at least should be traversed on foot; the traveller hurrying through in his carriage is quite incapable of appreciating its awful magnificence.

The *Middle Bridge*, a most striking object, from its graceful proportions, and the boldness with which its light arch spans the dark and deep gulf below, is approached by a second small gallery, protected by a wooden roof to ward off falling stones. Hereabouts, the lofty precipices on the one side actually overhang those on the other, the direction of the chasm being oblique, and the smooth wall of rock on either side being nearly parallel, and scarcely wider apart above than below. Looking over the parapet of this bridge, the Rhine, reduced to a thread of water, is barely visible, boiling and foaming in the depths below. Indeed, in one place it is entirely lost to view—jammed in, as it were, between the rocks, here so slightly separated, that small blocks and trunks of fir-trees, falling from above, have been caught in the chink, and remain suspended above the water. The ordinary height of the bridge above the river is 400 ft.; and the water, as mentioned above, is in one place invisible at ordinary times, yet, at the commencement of the fearful inundation of 1834 (already alluded to in several routes), the postmaster of Tüsis, who drove up the Via Mala during the storm, found that the water had risen to within a few feet of the bridge; the roar was terrific; and, as he drew up a little further on, in consequence of the road being destroyed, two mangled human bodies were swept past him by the flood.

The road, again, is no more than a shelf hewn out of the face of the precipice overhung by the rock, so as to be almost a subterranean passage, and the width of the defile is, in places, not more than 24 ft. Near the 3rd, or upper bridge, however, a fine structure—built to replace the one swept off in 1834—it widens out, and the road emerges into the open valley of Schams (Sexamniensis, from